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Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Near East & South Asia

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WTC Defendant Ramzi Yusuf Interviewed in Prison

95AA0183A London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 28 May 95 pp 22-29

[Interview with Ramzi Yusuf, defendant charged in the bombing of New York's World Trade Center, by Muhammad 'Ali Salih at Yusuf's prison cell in New York; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Is his name Ramzi Yusuf, Ahmad Rashid, Ibrahim Kamal, 'Abd-al-Basit 'Abd-al-Karim, or 'Abd-al-Basit al-Balushi? Is he Pakistani, Palestinian, Kuwaiti, or Iraqi? Was he the mastermind behind the explosion at the World Trade Center [WTC] in New York in 1993, did he participate in it, play a secondary role in it, or not participate in it at all? Has he declared war on the United States, declared the legitimacy of fighting the United States, and what is the difference? There is one thing for sure: This man is being held in a U.S. federal prison in New York under strong guard and will be brought to trial in September. U.S. federal agents arrested him in Pakistan last February and brought him to the New York prison. He had fled from the United States on the day of the WTC explosion in February 1993. AL-MAJALLAH entered Ramzi Yusuf's cell and questioned him about things that still need to be answered.

[Salih] Who are you?

[Yusuf] My name is 'Abd-al-Basit al-Balushi.

[Salih] You have changed your name several times. When you came to the United States in 1992 (five months before the WTC explosion in New York), your name in your passport was Ramzi Yusuf. When you lived in New York, you changed your name to Rashid. When you fled to Pakistan (on the day of the WTC explosion) on a Jordanian airplane, your name on your passport was 'Abd-al-Basit 'Abd-al-Karim. What is your real name?

[Yusuf] I already told you my name.

[Salih] Why have you changed your name several times?

[Yusuf] I will answer all these questions as follow: I am a mujahid, and one principle of jihad is to use codes, signals, and ambiguities to mislead the enemies.

[Salih] Who are the enemies?

[Yusuf] The enemies of God who are plotting against Islam.

[Salih] Are you referring to the Palestinian issue and the usurpation of the land of Palestine by the Jews?

[Yusuf] I do not speak nonsense like those who raise empty slogans. I speak the Almighty God's words in his book. He is the one who said: Strongest among men in enmity to the Believers wilt thou find the Jews and Pagans...[Koran Surah V; 85].

[Salih] Why do you not fight the Jews in Palestine? Why did you come to the United States to blow up buildings and kill innocent people?

[Yusuf] I have promised God to fight them wherever they are. I fought them in Palestine and I will fight them in Palestine again if I have the chance.

[Salih] Do you mean that you have carried out a fedayeen operation inside the occupied territories?

[Yusuf] Yes. I entered the occupied territories and Israel several times.

[Salih] When and how?

[Yusuf] I will not give you details.

[Salih] Why?

[Yusuf] I do not want the enemies to exploit what I say to you and use it against me when they bring me to trial. The Prophet of God, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, went out for jihad and never divulged the secrets of the mujahedin or their military plans.

[Salih] Why do you not content yourself with the Jews? Why have you declared war on the United States?

[Yusuf] I did not say that I have declared war on the so-called United States. I fight whoever provides money and weapons to the Zionist Jews, particularly the so-called United States.

[Salih] Why do you say the so-called United States?

[Yusuf] It should be called the "Israeli States" because it supports Israel in everything, as if it was subordinated to Israel and not vice versa. On the other side, we must say the "American Israel" because it is like any U.S. state—even the strongest U.S. state.

[Salih] Have you declared war on the United States?

[Yusuf] I repeat that I have not declared war on the United States.

[Salih] What is the difference between declaring a war and calling for fighting the United States?

[Yusuf] I do not want to get into such a discussion. I have said that the Almighty God has ordered us to fight the Jews, who have attacked us, and their allies.

[Salih] Why do you not argue with the Americans instead of calling for killing them? The Koran contains many verses that call for dialogue with non-Muslims.

[Yusuf] Yes, they call for dialogue with non-Muslims if they are in a state of peace, but it is ridiculous to talk about dialogue with the enemies of Islam, the usurpers of Muslim territories, and their American partner.

[Salih] Why do innocent people and civilians have to suffer when American targets are hit?

[Yusuf] I do not call for hitting civilian targets and innocent people, but there is nothing wrong with hitting military targets.

[Salih] For example?

[Yusuf] Any American military base inside or outside the United States is a legitimate target because weapons, tanks, and aircraft are moved from these bases to support the Zionist enemy.

[Salih] You came to the United States in 1992 as a guest and asked for political asylum. Do you not see anything wrong with attacking a country that sheltered you?

[Yusuf] The enemy's hospitality does not prevent us from resisting it. Anyway, I did not enter the United States before.

[Salih] Did you not enter the United States in 1992? Did you not ask for political asylum at Kennedy Airport and say that you were afraid of Saddam Husayn's regime?

[Yusuf] I repeat that I did not enter the United States. I will not say anymore. I will say everything in court.

[Salih] Did you not participate in the WTC explosion in New York in 1993 and even masterminded the explosion?

[Yusuf] I denied all the charges against me.

[Salih] But you do not oppose the WTC explosion?

[Yusuf] I repeat that the United States is Israel's partner in crime against the Arabs and Muslims.

[Salih] Wasn't the WTC a civilian target and didn't the explosion kill innocent people?

[Yusuf] I believe that it was not a civilian target then.

[Salih] What do you mean?

[Yusuf] Perhaps the aim was to assassinate a Zionist official in the building.

[Salih] Who was it?

[Yusuf] I do not know, but the possibility exists.

[Salih] Is this the reason why you support the explosion?

[Yusuf] I support it as a military operation against the Zionist enemy.

[Salih] But the explosion killed and wounded innocent civilians.

[Yusuf] And what about the killing and wounding of innocent civilians in Palestine?

[Salih] Do you support the collective punishment of Americans?

[Yusuf] If a Palestinian carries out a fedayeen operation against Israel, it demolishes his family's house, displaces the women and children, declares a curfew, closes schools and universities, and opens fire at demonstrators. This, too, is collective punishment.

[Salih] Is there not a difference between a civilian government and a military government? In the United States there is a civilian government freely elected by the people.

[Yusuf] What about the collective punishment carried out by the U.S. Government against the Iraqi and Libyan peoples? Because of the U.S. Government's disagreements with the Iraqi and Libyan Governments, it is starving, besieging, and punishing the Muslims there. Would it have done the same had the Iraqis and Libyans been Christian? It is true that the shari'ah forbids the killing of peaceful civilians. Yet, whoever attacks the Muslims and their countries is an enemy and should be resisted. Even international law permits self-defense.

[Salih] You denied that you have participated in the WTC explosion in New York, but the U.S. Government has recently made other charges against you, including attempting to assassinate the Pope. Is this true?

[Yusuf] I emphatically deny it.

[Salih] A third charge is participation in the hijacking of an American civilian aircraft.

[Yusuf] I have denied all the charges made against me.

[Salih] The U.S. Government said that your fingerprints were found on letters and instructions regarding the production of explosives.

[Yusuf] All the evidence is fabricated and I deny it emphatically.

[Salih] What about the testimonies of those who testified against you in court?

[Yusuf] Do you believe these testimonies? They are all fabricated.

[Salih] Did you not make the bomb that went off in the WTC?

[Yusuf] There is no unequivocal proof of this.

[Salih] But you do not deny that you are an explosives engineer?

[Yusuf] Yes, I am an explosives expert and electronic engineer. I studied electronic engineering in Britain.

[Salih] Have you participated in the production of explosives?

[Yusuf] Yes. I have participated in training mujahedin outside the United States to travel to Bosnia to defend the Muslims there.

[Salih] The Federal Bureau of Investigation said they captured documents and instructions in your possession about the production of explosives.

[Yusuf] Since I am an electronic engineer and an explosives expert, why should anyone be surprised by that? Still, this is not incriminating evidence against me.

[Salih] The group that was found guilty in the WTC explosion case, whose members were sentenced to imprisonment, said that you made the bomb.

[Yusuf] These people were detained arbitrarily and were not given a fair trial. It was clear that the U.S. Government wanted to incriminate them in any way. Therefore, one must be careful about relying on what was said during their trial.

[Salih] Are they innocent?

[Yusuf] Yes.

[Salih] Ahmad 'Ajjaj, who arrived in the United States with you on the same aircraft in 1992, was found to possess documents and instructions about explosives. Is he also innocent?

[Yusuf] Ahmad 'Ajjaj is innocent, and all of them are innocent.

[Salih] How can you prove that?

[Yusuf] Wait for the trial.

[Salih] Are you a terrorist?

[Yusuf] If a terrorist is someone who wants to regain his homeland from the Zionists who usurped it, then I am a terrorist.

[Salih] Are you an extremist fundamentalist?

[Yusuf] The words "terrorist," "fundamentalist," and others have no meaning to me. Israel is a terrorist country, and the Jews who established it are extremists.

[Salih] What is the solution to the Palestinian problem, in your opinion?

[Yusuf] Returning Palestine to the Palestinians, driving out the Jews who entered it since 1948, and holding war crimes' trials for Israeli commanders.

[Salih] U.S. President Bill Clinton said after the Oklahoma explosion that he will seek the death sentence against those who perpetrate explosions and destruction. The U.S. Government will demand the death sentence for your role in the WTC explosion.

[Yusuf] Man's life on this earth is very short anyway.

[Salih] What is your opinion about the Oklahoma explosion, which killed many innocent people?

[Yusuf] It is wrong.

[Salih] Do you condemn it and condemn the killing of innocent people (as happened in the WTC explosion)?

[Yusuf] No comment.

[Salih] What is your opinion of President Clinton and the U.S. veto on the Jerusalem issue?

[Yusuf] Clinton is insolent, a Zionist and the son of a Zionist.

[Salih] What is your opinion of Yasir 'Arafat and the agreement he signed with Israel?

[Yusuf] The Almighty said: Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion [Koran Surah II; 120]. This is, of course, what the messenger of all messengers, Muhammad, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, talked about. I do not want to comment on Yasir 'Arafat.

[Salih] Let us go back to the WTC explosion and your court case in September. What will you say to the court?

[Yusuf] Israel is an illegitimate state and the Israeli aggressions against the Islamic holy places and the Palestinian people are not condoned by the Almighty God nor by the international laws represented in the UN resolutions.

[Salih] But this is a general defense and might not justify the charges against you.

[Yusuf] This is an Islamic, Arab, and Palestinian case. I am Palestinian and my mother is Palestinian. The Jews confiscated my grandmother's house in Haifa in 1948 and confiscated the houses of my relatives and family. They killed them, they expelled them, and the Jews are still doing this until today.

[Salih] This is about Israel, but how will you defend yourself in court regarding what you did in the United States?

[Yusuf] The United States is a partner in these crimes because it supports the Zionist Jews and sends them weapons and financial aid.

[Salih] The prosecution will tell the court that what you are saying does not justify bombing the WTC.

[Yusuf] My case is Islamic, in the first place, and then Palestinian. The WTC explosion is something marginal compared to this.

[Salih] But the prosecution will say that this means you are admitting your participation in the explosion.

[Yusuf] The prosecution will say many things against me. As I said at the beginning of this interview, I will explain everything in court.

[Salih] The prosecution will ask you whether you know anything about those behind the explosion.

[Yusuf] It is no secret that the "liberation army" has declared its responsibility for the explosion.

[Salih] Are you a member of the "liberation army?"

[Yusuf] Yes.

[Salih] Are you a commander of the "liberation army?"

[Yusuf] No.

[Salih] Who are the commanders of this army?

[Yusuf] This is a secret.

[Salih] Where is this army and where are its commanders?

[Yusuf] This is a secret.

[Salih] Does the army has any connection with Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and his colleagues who are currently on trial in New York?

[Yusuf] It is no secret that the "liberation army" supports the aims of the al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah, but this does not mean it has any connection with the charges leveled against the shaykh and his colleagues.

[Salih] What about the al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah and the al-Jihad group in Egypt, the Hamas Movement and the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, the Salvation Front and the Islamic Movement in Algeria, and others?

[Yusuf] I said that the "liberation army" raises the banner of Islam to promote what is right.

[Salih] How will you justify, in court, the fact that you are a member of the "liberation army" and that this army was behind the New York explosion, but that you were not involved in the explosion?

[Yusuf] I will say all that and ask the court to make a distinction between our aims and our activities as a movement and Muslims who are championing a cause on the one hand, and a specific role in a specific charge on the other.

[Salih] But the court will try a person according to his actions and not according to his aims and principles.

[Yusuf] I say that all the Muslims have a right to fight the Zionist Jews and their allies because Jerusalem is an Islamic issue.

[Salih] You say that this is a legitimate Islamic action and the court will say this is a violation of American law.

[Yusuf] I do not care what the court will say against me.

[Salih] Do you not think that such statements will be used against you in court?

[Yusuf] I have not confessed any crime.

[Salih] You said that all the Muslims must declare war on the United States.

[Yusuf] I did not say "declare war." I said to "consider themselves in a state of war."

[Salih] What is the difference?

[Yusuf] There is a big difference. If you do not understand it, wait for what I have to say in court.

[Salih] The prosecution will tell the court that you are a Pakistani and not a Palestinian and all that you are saying about the Palestinian issue is an attempt to justify what you did. What is your response?

[Yusuf] The prosecution, as I said before, will say many things against me, but it cannot change my identity. The occupation of Muslim land by the Zionist Jews is of interest to all Muslims.

[Salih] What is your identity? Are you Palestinian or Pakistani?

[Yusuf] My father is Pakistani and my mother is Palestinian. I said that the Jews have seized the houses of my mother's family in Haifa.

[Salih] Where were you born and when?

[Yusuf] I was born and raised in Kuwait. I then went to Britain to study electronic engineering, as I said. I am now 27 years old.

[Salih] What passport do you hold?

[Yusuf] Pakistani.

[Salih] But you came to the United States in 1992 with an Iraqi passport.

[Yusuf] How I entered the United States, with what passport, and whether I did enter the United States — I will talk about all these matters in court.

[Salih] How many languages do you speak?

[Yusuf] Arabic, English, Urdu, and Baluchi.

[Salih] What will you tell the court about your real name?

[Yusuf] As I already said, my name is 'Abd-al-Basit al-Balushi. I was born in Kuwait. My father is Pakistani and my mother is Palestinian.

[Salih] Is this a scheme to deny any accusation against you under the name of Ramzi Yusuf?

[Yusuf] You asked me about my name, and I told you my name.

[Salih] Who is Ramzi Yusuf?

[Yusuf] Some people call me Ramzi Yusuf, but I know my real name.

[Salih] What is your relation with Kuwait?

[Yusuf] Nothing.

[Salih] What is your relation with Iraq?

[Yusuf] Nothing.

[Salih] Do you have a family?

[Yusuf] Yes. I have a wife and two daughters.

[Salih] Where are they now?

[Yusuf] I will not tell you.

[Salih] Do you receive letters from your family?

[Yusuf] My family does not know my address.

[Salih] Have Pakistani or Arab lawyers volunteered to defend you?

[Yusuf] Nobody knows where I am. They only know that I am detained in the United States. They do not know how to reach me. I am sure that there are many Muslim lawyers who want to defend me.

[Salih] Does this mean that you are not satisfied with Mr. Roy Kalsar [name as transliterated], the lawyer the court has appointed to defend you?

[Yusuf] I prefer a Muslim or an Arab lawyer who understands the dimensions of the case against the Zionists.

[Salih] What happens if you cannot find one?

[Yusuf] I will continue with Mr. Kalsar.

[Salih] How are they treating you in prison?

[Yusuf] They are treating me very bad, particularly recently. They provoke me and do not allow me to perform Friday prayers with the brothers.

[Salih] Do they permit you to perform the ritual of ablution, to pray, and to read the Koran?

[Yusuf] Yes, but the group prayer is more rewarding and Friday prayer is a duty.

[Salih] Is there someone else with you in the cell?

[Yusuf] I am confined to a very small cell by myself. I do not get out except twice a week only for an hour.

[Salih] What about the food? Does it contain pork, for example?

[Yusuf] The food is not bad.

[Salih] Do you have a television in your cell?

[Yusuf] No.

[Salih] Do you want a television?

[Yusuf] No comment.

[Salih] How do you keep up with the news?

[Yusuf] I do not have access to news, except through magazines and newspapers the lawyer brings. I want to subscribe to magazines and newspapers. The most important thing is that I want to hear from my family and brothers and any lawyer who wants to defend me.

[Salih] The U.S. Government says that you are the most dangerous man in the world, and therefore it is necessary to keep you under strong guard.

[Yusuf] The U.S. Government can say anything. I depend on God.

[Salih] The U.S. Government says it will request the death sentence for you.

[Yusuf] Brother, I said that our lives in this world are short. The happy person among us is the one who guarantees he will go to paradise after death.

Talks Held on Development of al-'Aqabah Region

JN1506200295 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 15 Jun 95

[From the "News at Ten" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] A trilateral meeting of the development of the al-'Aqabah region was held in Amman with the participation of Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and the European Union.

The experts discussed joint projects in tourism, environment, transport, and communications in the Taba-al-'Aqabah-Elat region.

The meeting sponsored by the European Union took place as preparations continued for the October Amman summit.

Delegates to the conference expressed hope that regional cooperation between the three countries would bring prosperity and enhance cooperation. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

PA Arrests Hamas 'Fugitive'; Hamas Leader Reacts

TA1606095995 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Shaykh Ahmad Bahr, a Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leader from the Gaza Strip, severely criticizes the arrest of Bassam 'Isa, a Hamas fugitive, by the Palestinian police this morning. According to him, the Palestinian Authority [PA] is contributing to the rise in tension among the Gaza Strip organizations.

Palestinian sources told our correspondent Dani Zaqen that after the arrest, dozens of residents took to the streets and pelted the Palestinian policemen with rocks.

PA Backing for Hamas Leaders' Exit Suggests Deal

MM1606110395 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 16 Jun 95 p 4

[Unattributed report: "[Palestinian] Authority [PA] Facilitates Exit of Hamas Leaders From Gaza for Consultation With Their Colleagues Abroad"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gaza, AL-HAYAH — In an unusual and rare move reflecting the extent of progress made in the dialogue that has been going on for some time between the Palestinian Authority [PA] and the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), the PA has intervened to request exit permits for four Hamas leaders, including Dr. Mahmud al-Zahhar, to enable them to hold consultations with the movement's leaders abroad.

AL-HAYAH has learned that the PA asked Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and the United States to facilitate the exit of the four leaders from Gaza to hold consultations with their colleagues abroad. It has been rumored in Gaza that an agreement between the two sides [PA and Hamas] was reached some time ago and that it will be signed in the presence of an Arab party abroad.

Hamas Criticizes Election Talks With Israel

JN1506175695 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, has issued a political statement on the so-called elections to a self-rule council in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the statement, Hamas noted the continuation of the talks on elections between the limited self-rule authority and the Zionist entity, saying that a deceptive policy is being pursued against our Palestinian people to conceal the facts about the proposed elections, the terms governing these elections, and the concessions entailed.

In its statement, the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, added: The redeployment of the Zionist enemy troops will be coupled with the confiscation of thousands of donums of land in the West Bank to build military barracks as well as roads for Zionist settlements. The elections that will cost us so dearly are elections to a self-rule council, an executive council governed by the provisions enshrined in the Oslo and Cairo agreements. This council cannot enact laws that are not endorsed by the Zionist enemy government in advance.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, demanded the release of all the strugglers held in the jails of the Zionist enemy and the 'Arafatist authority.

'Arafat Urges UN, Donor States To Pressure Israel

JN1506193095 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has urged officials from the United Nations and donor nations to pressure Israel to implement the second part of the Cairo-Oslo agreement and abide by the 1 July deadline. President 'Arafat called for assistance to arrive at a faithful and accurate implementation of the agreement.

In remarks during a meeting of UN agencies in Gaza this morning, President 'Arafat stressed the need for the redeployment and holding of legislative elections. He said: It is extremely important for us to expedite the elections because they mean democracy and democracy means stability and prosperity.

President 'Arafat thanked the conferees for coming to Gaza and holding the seminar under difficult economic circumstances. He said: I am confident that with your help we will be able to overcome those difficulties. 'Arafat regretted the failure to start the mechanism of action needed by the National Authority areas.

President 'Arafat reiterated the need to arrive at a faithful and accurate implementation of what has been agreed upon with Israel.

PA Said Reassessing Economic Agreement With Israel

TA1506094895 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Jun 95 p 2

[Report by Jose Rosenfeld]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Palestinian Authority [PA] is under mounting pressure to cancel its economic agreement with Israel, as the closure of Israel to Palestinian agricultural goods is throwing the territories' agriculture into disarray, a senior Palestinian economist said yesterday.

There is pressure on the PA "to do something drastic about the situation, including pulling out altogether from the economic negotiations with the Israelis," said Hisham 'Awartani, an economics professor at al-Najah University.

He explained that the key benefit the Palestinians expected from the accord was the open access to the Israeli market for their agricultural produce.

'Awartani said that the closure has created such surpluses that boxes of tomatoes and cucumbers are now selling for 1 NIS [new Israeli shekel] in Gaza and not much more in Judaea and Samaria. "Farmers are leaving their produce in their fields," he said.

"It is ironic that with the implementation of the Paris [economic] accord at the beginning of the year the Israeli authorities forbade the flow of goods from the West Bank and Gaza," he noted.

The present situation contrasts starkly with last year, when the still porous divide between Israel and the territories allowed Palestinian agriculture to sustain itself.

According to a Central Bureau of Statistics report released yesterday, agriculture production in Judaea and Samaria, excluding Jericho, stood at NIS 1.3 billion last year, comparable to 14 percent of Israeli agricultural output. Production was boosted by a particularly large olive crop, 22% higher than in 1993.

'Awartani blamed Israel for blocking the free flow of goods. Since the agreement with the Palestinians gives Israel a lot of leeway to prevent free trade, it can always justify its moves, he said. He said there has been an abuse of the security issue.

"Why doesn't Israel sit with the Palestinian security authorities, who are perfectly capable to deal with trade-linked security issues?"

'Abd-al-Rahim: PA To Effect 'Far-Reaching' Budget Cuts

TA1306100095 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Jun 95 p 5

[Report by Eli Bohadana]

[FBIS Translated Text] Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, the secretary general of the Palestinian Authority [PA], said that the PA has decided to cut its budget due to its dire economic situation.

The PA's financial dire straits are very evident, 'Abd-al-Rahim said, and its deficit stands at $228 million. According to him, out of the $444 million that the PA was slated to receive, the donor countries have pledged to give it only $162 million. In view of this situation, 'Abd-al-Rahim said, the PA decided to effect far-reaching cuts in its budget.

The Palestinian security forces yesterday released three Islamic Jihad activists who were arrested following the Bet Lid bombing. Palestinian sources said that the decision to let them go had come in the wake of the halt to terrorist attacks in the autonomous areas.

'Arafat Receives Jordanian Official's Credentials

JN1406150395 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun in Gaza from the "Today's Events" feature]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat received the credentials of Ziyad al-Majali, Jordan's representative to the National Authority [NA], at the Presidency in Gaza this morning.

Following the presentation of credentials ceremony, President 'Arafat met with Jordan's representative al-Majali for some time. Dr. Nabil Sha'th, Planning and International Cooperation minister; and al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, the Presidency's secretary general, attended the meeting.

The two sides exchanged views on issues of interest to the Palestinian and Jordanian people.

Al-Majali, who reviewed the honor guard, said that the meeting was very good. He praised President 'Arafat's eagerness and encouragement to open a Jordanian representation office in the NA. He stressed that he will begin work as of today. Jordan's representative said he hopes Jordanian-Palestinian relations will continue to develop. He said that he conveyed an oral message from the Jordanian Government to President 'Arafat. [passage omitted]

PA Minister on Rafah, Jericho Crossing Points

JN1506082095 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Jun 95 p 8

[Report by Kamal Zakarinah]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Amman — 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Hajj Ahmad, minister of transport at the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], has said that opening the Rafah and Jericho crossing points for the movement of commodities from Egypt and Jordan to the Palestinian areas aims at opening trade outlets between Palestine and neighboring Arab countries. This is in order to break the siege imposed by Israeli authorities on the Palestinian areas and to end the monopolization of Palestinian markets by Israeli commodities which has continued for 28 years.

In an exclusive statement to AL-DUSTUR, he added that this measure comes as a first step along the road to free trade and the free movement of commodities and vehicles between PNA areas and Arab countries. He said that this embodies the pan-Arab identity of the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian official said that goods coming through the crossing points will cost the Palestinian consumer less and will encourage trade movement between Palestine and Jordan, Egypt, and other Arab countries.

He added that opening the Jericho crossing point helps in implementing the trade agreement signed between the PNA and Jordan and embodies the normal and distinguished relations between the two fraternal Jordanian and Palestinian peoples .

He noted that the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations from both Ministries of Transportation have finished formulating a draft agreement on land transportation. This draft agreement guarantees free movement of vehicles and commodities between the two countries and through Jordan to other Arab countries. Moreover, it was agreed with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states to acknowledge the Palestinian certificate of origin to export Palestinian goods, especially agricultural products, to these countries.

He added that Jordan and Palestine will sign the agreement on land transportation during the next few days. [passage omitted]

Turkey Recognizes PA Passports; 'Arafat To Visit

TA1606092395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Turkey has notified the Palestinian Authority [PA] that it recognizes Palestinian passports. The message was presented by the Turkish consul to PA leader Yasir 'Arafat. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that 'Arafat will be leaving on a two-day visit to Turkey on 19 June, upon the invitation of the Turkish prime minister.

Fatah Protests IDF Detentions in Tulkarm Area

TA1506082295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has seized 30 dunams belonging to the al-Qadiri agricultural college near Tulkarm, and bulldozers are now preparing the ground. Fatah sources in the area said the land will be used to set up a liaison office prior to the IDF's redeployment.

Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem has learned that in the last few days the security forces have detained several Fatah activists in the Tulkarm area. In response, the organization decided to take protest action: to close its office in the town for a week and to cut off contacts with the Civil Administration.

National Movement for Change Criticizes U.S. Policy

JN1306144495 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 8 Jun 95 P 4

[Report by Mustafa al-Sawwaf in Gaza]

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Movement for Change has criticized the U.S. position which totally supports Israel and does not take the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people into consideration, particularly regarding the issues of land expropriation, settlement activity, and the Judaization of Jerusalem.

A statement issued by the movement yesterday morning commenting on Christopher's visit said the Palestinians have been greatly disappointed with this U.S. position and with the entire peace plan.

The National Movement for Change asked the United States to fulfill its obligations toward the peace process, particularly toward the Palestinian people who opted for peace rather than violence.

The statement added that Israel's intransigence and attempts to obstruct the implementation of the second phase of the Oslo agreement will lead to the collapse of the peace process in the region.

FIDA Concludes Conference, Elects Central Committee

JN1406102295 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 11 Jun 95 pp 1, 7

[FBIS Translated Text] Jericho—Culture Minister Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh has said: The Palestinian Democratic Union Party (FIDA), concluded its conference yesterday and endorsed several political decisions to improve its role within the framework of the Palestinian Authority in an effort to improve its performance, especially in the field of protecting citizens' rights and the issuance of laws and legislations that guarantee the freedom to establish parties, the freedom of the press, and other matters aiming at establishing the bases of the Palestinian civil society. The conference called for reassessing the negotiations process if Israel fails to abide by the July deadline to redeploy its troops and prepare for the Palestinian general elections.

The conference stressed the need to seek to unify the democratic factions and trends within the framework of a single democratic group.

The conference further stressed the need to open a comprehensive national dialogue among all Palestinian factions and figures to arrive at a national common ground to protect the Palestinian future.

The conference also emphasized that the issue of the detainees must be given a top priority in the activities of the authority and the people. The conference stressed the need to continue domestic, Arab, and international mobilization against the settlement activities in Jerusalem and the other Palestinian territory.

On the organizational level, the conference endorsed the formula of a yearly periodic session and the system of elections from bottom to top. The conference elected a 70-member central Committee. It endorsed the nominations of 25 members from Gaza and 10 members from the militants in jails and abroad. It will elect the other members from the West Bank within two weeks.

Arab-Israeli Talks

'Arafat, Israel's Sarid Hold 'Fruitful' Meeting

JN1506143395 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1157 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun in Gaza—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] A meeting, which was held between President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid at the Presidency in Gaza this afternoon, ended a short while ago.

Following the meeting, President 'Arafat expressed hope that a final agreement on redeployment and the coming Palestinian legislative elections will be reached by the set date of 1 July. He thanked Minister Sarid for his visit, and described the meeting as fruitful and constructive.

Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation, said that it was agreed to release a number of detainees before 1 July. He added that several important issues were discussed, including redeployment, elections, and the transfer of powers to the National Authority in the West Bank.

They also discussed the issue of releasing the detainees. Dr. Sha'th demanded the release of a large number of Palestinian detainees and prisoners from Israeli jails before 1 July.

For his part, Minister Sarid said he was optimistic over reaching an agreement by 1 July. He said he hoped we would be able to hold legislative elections in October.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation, and Dr. Riyad al-Za'nun, minister of health.

Sarid on West Bank Elections, 'De Facto' State

TA1506161995 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Israeli negotiator, cabinet Minister Yosi Sarid says the important thing is that Palestinian elections take place; a move which, in his opinion will create a de fact Palestinian state and, what he calls, an irreversible new reality. Sarid was speaking after meeting with Palesinian Authority Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Gaza to review the state of negotiations on extending Palestinian autonomy to the West Bank.

Reporter Mark Weiss spoke with the minister after the meeting and asked him if he was confident the 1 July target date could be met.

[Begin recording] [Sarid] Well, I am hopeful, but I am not confident. There are still many obstacles on our way. The main obstacles are with reference to the issue of redeployment. If we try to achieve everything, a comprehensive, total agreement including all the details and all the points, I believe the 1 July date will tend to be not too realistic. But, if we are aiming to achieve an agreement which will be fair and reasonable, and more importantly, will enable the elections in the occupied teritories to be held not later than October or November, I believe it is still very possible to be reached on the timetable which has been agreed upon.

[Weiss] Has Yasir 'Arafat indicated a willingness to sign such a partial agreement?

[Sarid] My best judgement is that the main effort should be dedicated now to enable elections, to hold elections, because the point of elections is the most critical one because this is the point of no return. This will be the point which will establish a new reality in the West Bank, an irreversible situation. Let us admit very frankly: Even though after the elections — after Mr. 'Arafat will be elected as president, after the national Palestinian council will be elected too, after many powers and responsibilities will be transferred to the Palestinian Authority — let's admit that even though officially it is not going to be a Palestinian state, but for all practical purposes it will be a state. [end recording]

Sha'th Comments on 'Arafat-Sarid Meeting in Gaza

On 'Agreement' With Islamic Opposition

NC1506201195 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Telephone interview with Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the Palestinian Authority, in Gaza, by unidentified correspondent, in Cairo, on 15 June — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Correspondent] [passage omitted] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat met with Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid today. Was this meeting within the framework of the ongoing efforts to complete the Palestinian-Israeli talks on the implementation of the second phase of the Declaration of Principles by 1 July? What was achieved during the meeting?

[Sha'th] The meeting was held at the request of the Israeli minister, who is a staunch supporter of the peace process. He is a member of the Meretz Bloc and a permanent member of the Israeli inner cabinet. He came to see how he could help achieve the desired agreement before 1 July, how he could render support in this direction, and what messages he could convey to Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres on the Palestinian viewpoint on as yet unresolved issues. He conveyed a message from his leadership. We conveyed to him the Palestinian viewpoint. He affirmed that he is optimistic. He also affirmed that the Israeli side will offer something compatible with the Declaration of Principles and that he will not support anything incompatible with the agreement we signed together in Washington. Nevertheless, we informed him that the gap between the Palestinian and Israeli stands is still wide and that there are not many days left before 1 July. We informed him of the points which require an Israeli stand more compatible with the Declaration of Principles. We also informed him of the need for the release of prisoners before the general elections and before the implementation of the agreement because this is an important factor in our calculations.

[Correspondent] Did the Palestinian side affirm the need to adhere to the target date of 1 July agreed upon between Israel and the Palestinian Authority?

[Sha'th] Undoubtedly, the dates from which the Israelis have frequently backed off on the pretext that dates are not sacred are a very important issue. If the dates are not important, then the entire agreement is not important. It is inconceivable that we would let Israel treat the new date in the same way it treated other dates in the past because this would threaten the whole peace process. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] What is the opinion of the ordinary Israeli citizen now?

[Sha'th] Naturally, a change has occurred. In fact, four or six months ago, when the Islamic opposition's operations in Israel caused many casualties, Israeli society became less supportive of the peace process and the zealots and extremists gained ground. This led to our being beleaguered. Now and following the tacit agreement we reached with the Islamic opposition in Gaza to halt these military operations and to give peace a chance, I believe there has been an improvement again in the viewpoint of the Israeli ordinary citizens toward supporting the peace process.

Notes Points Obstructing Final Agreement

JN1506162095 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has expressed hope that a final agreement on redeployment and holding Palestinian legislative elections will be reached by the set date of 1 July.

Following a meeting with Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid at the Presidency in Gaza, President 'Arafat added that several important issues and details were discussed, including the 1 July deadline. President 'Arafat thanked Minister Sarid for his visit, and described the talks as fruitful and constructive.

President 'Arafat spoke about the efforts made by Sarid toward achieving peace. The president stressed that greater efforts should be made to strengthen relations between the two peoples.

Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation, said that it was agreed to release a number of detainees before 1 July. He also called for releasing a large number of Palestinian prisoners, including female prisoners, before that date.

Minister of planning and international cooperation added that the extent of Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank and the Palestinian powers continue to obstruct reaching a final agreement.

On his part, Minister Sarid said he was optimistic over reaching an agreement by the set date of 1 July. He stressed that if agreement is reached, the Palestinian elections could be held next October or November, and this will be a condition in the agreement. He said that the Palestinian state would become a reality on the ground. Sarid expressed his pleasure at meeting President 'Arafat, and stressed that his government is committed to the agreements it signed.

The meeting was attended by Health Minister Dr. Riyad al-Za'nun.

Main Points of Interim Agreement Detailed

TA1606110795 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jun 95 p B3

[Report by 'Uzi Benziman]

[FBIS Translated Text] Following are the main points of the interim agreement on the establishment of the Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which is currently being finalized:

— Evacuation: The West Bank cities will be evacuated by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers and installations. The military government and Civil Administration headquarters will also be removed. According to the definition accepted by both sides, cities include the entire municipal area. This means that the IDF will get out of not only the cities' centers, but their entire area. Exceptional cases will be where scattered Arab-owned houses are located near the city limits (behind which the IDF will be deployed), and where Jewish settlements border the city limits (the IDF will be deployed near these settlements). It has also been agreed that for the time being Hebron will not be evacuated.

— Redeployment: The West Bank will be divided up into two parts (outside the cities), one of which will be free of permanent army installations, while the other will have such installations. The first area will include all districts (except for a few areas) inhabited by Palestinians: villages, refugee camps, rural neighborhoods (some 450 locations altogether). The IDF will preserve its security powers in all these areas, but will not be deployed there on a permanent basis. "Security powers" imply the right in principle to patrol and intervene according to its considerations. In practice the sides have agreed that the Palestinian police will be in charge of maintaining law and order in these areas. Joint patrols similar to those in force in the Gaza Strip will be introduced here as well. Travel from one location to another will be unhindered, and there will be no roadblocks (contrary to the situation prevailing in the passage from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank or to Israel). Israel is entitled to implement any measures deemed necessary security-wise in order to enforce law and order, including blocking roads. The other area — which includes the Jewish settlements, the IDF camps, and the undeveloped areas that are considered state land (amounting to approximately half of the West Bank's territory) — will remain under Israel's sole control.

— Settlements: A very detailed document was drafted defining the status of the Jewish settlers. In no case or situation will they fall under the jurisdiction of the autonomy institutions. Even when necessary to interrogate or take legal action against Jews involved in incidents with Palestinians (such as car accidents), Israelis will be brought before the Israeli legal authorities. The understanding to this effect was based on the stipulations of the Gaza and Jericho agreement. Jews are guaranteed free access to all places, including Palestinian cities and villages in the Palestinian-controlled area. It is assumed (or hoped) that the settlers will try to avoid confrontations with the Arab population. The Jewish settlers' demand to expedite the building of bypass roads on the face of it indicates they are not eager to intermingle with the Palestinian population, and that what they want is easy access to neighboring settlements or the Green Line. It is generally assumed that the situation will be similar to that prevailing in Jericho, where only a few Jews insist on crossing the city limits, while most prefer to use the bypass roads. These arrangements (and the accompanying assumptions) do not hold for Hebron, where the friction between the Arab and Jewish populations will continue (and therefore the IDF is not evacuating the city).

Powers: All the Civil Administration powers will be transferred to the autonomy institutions. After the self-rule council is elected, the Palestinian Authority established in the wake of the Gaza-Jericho agreement will be dismantled. The Palestinians will call the council head president, while the Israelis will dub him chairman. The autonomy council and its head will apparently be located in Ramallah. After the interim agreement is signed the Gaza-Jericho agreement will become null and void. A significant violation of the agreement will bring about its cancellation; therefore, the autonomy council must not declare itself a government of a state.

Elections: The West Bank and Gaza Strip will be divided up into 13 election districts: Jerusalem, Jericho, Nabulus, Bethlehem, Hebron, Janin, Ramallah, Qalqilyah, Tulkarm, and four areas in the Gaza Strip. A district is defined as a city and its environs. This solves the symbolic problem involved in determining Jerusalem as one of the election districts, because from Israel's point of view this involves the Jerusalem district, not the city of Jerusalem. The Jerusalem district includes 38 villages in the city's vicinity. This division into districts more or less coincides with the division into districts during Jordan's and Israel's occupation.

Each district will elect one to eight representatives (according to its size). The number of council members is still disputed (Israel has agreed to 35, while the PLO is demanding 75). Candidates will be allowed to run in one district only. The voter will choose his preferred candidate, and in districts electing more than one representative, candidates will be ranked in a list according to the voters' preference. Any person will be allowed to run as candidate without having to belong to a particular party. There will also be no restrictions in terms of the candidate's attitude toward Israel or the peace process. This clause enables the rejectionist front organizations to get involved in the political process. Alongside the vote for the district representative on the autonomy council, voters will vote for a male or female (the agreement is a paradigm of political correctness and equally addresses both genders) candidate for council head. Here, too, the voting will be based on a list of candidates prepared in advanced from which the voters will have to choose one name. Some 1,500 international observers will supervise the elections.

The autonomy constitution: A narrow body will be established out of the elected council as the autonomy's executive branch. The head of this body will have to garner the support of a majority among the council members, whether by having his supporters (or party, in the event of a party's being formed) constitute a majority, or by forming a coalition. Persons who are not members of the council will be permitted to join the executive branch, whether autonomy members or not (a thing that makes room for persons such as Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh — who will not run for office — as well as for members of PLO-Tunis). The authority of the council and its head have been defined in a set of regulations. Officially, the head is not entitled to veto the council decisions.

Over the next few days the negotiations over the interim agreement will be accelerated, and the argument over its details is expected to be exacerbated: Israel will strive to implement the agreement gradually, to have the IDF redeploy in only a few cities first — excluding the rural area — and only at a later stage and on the basis of the security circumstances to redeploy in the other cities (except for Hebron) and the entire rural area. The PLO will strive to expand the redeployment as much as possible during the first stage of the redeployment. The argument will also involve the question of whether to fix a specific date for implementing the second stage of the IDF redeployment. A crisis is expected to erupt, at which point Rabin and 'Arafat are likely to deal with the matter themselves. In any case, within several months the situation in the territories will be completely changed.

Tunisian Delegation Visits on Air, Tourism Ties

TA1406141895 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 14 Jun 95 p 8

[FBIS Translated Text] Tunis is interested in tightening air and tourism ties with Israel. This message was presented to Transportation Minister Yisra'el Qeysar yesterday in a meeting with a Tunisian delegation.

The delegation is headed by Prof. Zmarli, a former Tunisian health minister and the president of human rights committee of the EEC, and Mr. M. Lockhill, who is a member of the board of directors of the national airline Tunis Air and owns tourism and airline companies and hotels in Tunisia. [Tunisian names and titles as published]

Minister Qeysar said he welcomes the initiative of the delegation and that he sees no reason to delay the establishment of a direct air link between Israel and Tunis. He added he would gladly meet his Tunisian counterpart to sign an air traffic agreement between the two countries.

Qeysar further said that air links between countries could serve as a basis for normal relations, and that he believes many Israelis born in Tunis would love to visit there once an agreement on direct flights is signed. Qeysar believes that Tunisian tourism stands to gain even more than Israeli tourism from the agreement.

The heads of the delegation notified Minister Qeysar that they will relay a positive message to their tourism and transportation ministers as well as Qeysar's invitation to discuss air links.

Algeria

FIS Shaykhs To Issue Repudiation of GIA

MM1506111895 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 15 Jun 95 pp 1, 6

[Report by Kamil al-Tawil: "Armed Group Announces Dismissal of Madani and Belhadj"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London — The Algerian Armed Islamic Group [GIA] has announced the dismissal of Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] leaders Shaykhs Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj from its shura council. It appointed them as members of the council in spring last year.

It held them responsible for "the statements and positions emanating from them." The position adopted by the GIA, which is the most extremist in Algeria, was adopted following reports of the FIS' resumption of dialogue with the authorities.

Algerian Islamic sources have confirmed to AL-HAYAH that Shaykhs Madani and Belhadj have actually completed a statement in which they dissociate themselves from actions attributed to the GIA. The sources said that "the final version of the statement is ready and waiting to be announced." The sources pointed out that the two shaykhs' announcement will not be in the form of "a statement renouncing violence and terrorism" and calling for a halt to them, because they refuse to accuse the GIA alone of responsibility for what is happening in Algeria. They believe that the authorities too share a major part of the responsibility because of their decision to cancel the elections early in 1992.

The Islamic sources added that the two leaders will include in their statement clear references to their objection to actions espoused by the GIA, such as murdering women and declaring society infidel. The sources expected their statement to include a reply to points raised by the "national amir" of the Islamic Salvation Army [AIS] Madani Mezrak in a letter addressed to them and to the Algerian people and their leaders, ulema, and parties early this year. The statement will include a reply especially to the claim by Mezrak that elements "planted" among the groups' [GIA] ranks are issuing fatwas deeming "a large section of the mujahidin a stray group (AIS) and saying that the people are atheists and tyrants, judging them for some minor mistakes that could be tackled through good preaching."

The sources added that in their statement the shaykhs will be eager not to cause confusion among the ranks of the Islamic groups in order to avert infighting. The sources said that no reference will be made to the GIA in Madani's and Belhadj's statement.

The sources pointed out that the expected statement will be a prelude to a draft solution to the crisis, whose broad outlines are expected to crystallize in two months at the latest. The sources expected the authorities to hasten to grant some FIS leaders freedom of political movement without this meaning the resumption of FIS activities, since it is legally dissolved. The sources pointed out that the front's name is unlikely to be changed at this stage.

It is not known whether the ruling Algerian leadership is agreed on the issue of negotiating with FIS leaders or on what it is going to offer the outlawed front in return for the Madani-Belhadj statement. Some sources say that circles within the authorities opposed to the dialogue with the FIS are behind the information leak about the meetings Shaykh Madani is holding in Douera in the capital with officials close to President Liamine Zeroual and with other FIS leaders. These differing views within the authorities were reflected in a recent statement made by Interior Minister Abderrahmane Meziane-Cherif, in which he announced the return of Shaykhs Madani and Belhadj to prison. His position was announced while secret talks were being held between Mohamed Betchine, adviser to the head of state, and Shaykh Madani in Douera.

It seems that the two shaykhs' statement — if its issuance is not hampered by new disagreements between the authorities and the FIS — will be addressed specifically to two groups within the GIA: the group belonging to Shaykh Mohamed El Said and the group belonging to Shaykh Said Makhloufi (the Islamic State Movement). There have been reports of discontent inside these two groups at the statements issued by the GIA and the "repudiationsit ideology" promoted by the extremist tendency in it.

In what appears to be an attempt to preempt the FIS leadership's statement, a statement has been issued in the GIA's name, signed by its amir, Abu Abderrahmane Amin, announcing the dismissal of Shaykhs Madani and Belhadj from its shura council. The statement, dated 13 June, pointed to the background of the two shaykhs' appointment as members, saying that with the beginning of armed action in Algeria in 1992 they demonstrated a "backtracking" on partisanship, leaving matters to the jihad leaders.

The statement announced that "(the group) was disappointed with their approval of the plan of the bloodmongers — the national covenant [parties] — in addition to their perpetuation of disunion, their recognition of the so-called AIS after the statements issued on unity, jihad, and adherence to the Book and the Sunnah, and their bias toward the (Islamic) Front despite its clear corruption."

The statement, entitled "Open Letter to Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj," added that, having "issued warnings through messages and messenger," the group has decided to "dismiss them from its shura council" and to "dissociate itself from their membership of it until they adopt a new position" and "shoulder responsibility for the statements and positions emanating from them." And we "declare the renunciation of blood-mongers inside and outside the country and sanction their murder, except those who repent." The group advised the two shaykhs and all Muslims to avoid "democratic party action."

Commenting on the statement, Rabah Kebir, chairman of the FIS Executive Committee abroad, told AL-HAYAH that "Shaykhs Madani and Ali Belhadj represent the front's historic leadership. They have not joined any other group. The FIS is open to anyone who adheres to the Islamic Shari'ah and shares its political program. We have pledged to reject and condemn any action that violates the tenets of Islam."

He added: "Therefore, we urge the GIA leadership to dissociate itself from and condemn all the actions committed in its name which violate the Islamic Shari'ah. And to dissociate itself from the statements issued in its name from time to time which violate the Shari'ah. Otherwise it will be held responsible for these deviations, whether in words or actions, before God first then the nation and history."

THE ENLIGHTENMENT on 'Control' of Islam

MS0906134195 (Internet) Southall THE ENLIGHTENMENT in English 26 May 95

[Newsletter "publicizing the Islamic Struggle in Algeria, published by the FIS supporters in Europe" — received via Internet on 8 June]

[FBIS Transcribed Text]**Editorial**

The use of "Islam a la carte" to enslave Muslims!

Praise be to Allah Who Says: "As for those who divide their religion and break up into sects, you are not a part of them in the least; their affair is with Allah' He will in the end tell them the truth of all that they did." (Koran, Surat Al-An'am, 6:159).

It is well known in history that all regimes that have ruled over Muslims have tried to "monopolise" Islam with the exception of the first four Khalifas and one or two others during the following dynasties. The "monopolisation process" consists of casting the scholars and Imams with the status of "civil servant" or "state officials" that fit into a hierarchy at the top of which are the rulers. This is usually followed by the control and censure of Islamic teaching to a point as to give what is known as "Official Islams" such that at any given time, they are as many of them as there are rulers. In the last half century or so one could hear about "the socialist Islam", "the capitalist Islam", "the nationalist Islam" and even "the racial Islam" where the ruler must be (or known to be) a " Sharif" (appelation usually given to those who pretend to be descendant of the Prophet Muhammad (praise be unto him). There are still many mosques in the "Muslim countries" where the ruler's cult of personality is reflected in the Friday's preaches (khutba)s to a point of adoration despite the strict monotheism aspect of Islam.

Peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad who said in the "farewell pilgrimage" :"I have left amongst you that which, if you hold fast to it, shall preserve you from all error, a clear indication, the Book of Allah and the Sunna of His Prophet". Praise be to Allah who said:" We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it." (Koran S15:A9).

Has it not been for Allah protection of the authenticity of the Koran, some rulers would have tried to temper with it to fit their worldly selfish desires as other religions have ended up with several books that deviate from the original message.

Today, many regimes in their struggle to control Islam, have erected a bureaucratic institution to "manage" Islam.

Institutions of a ministerial rank are being charged of the "use of Islam"; Scholars are appointed by the rulers on the basis of "political docility", Imam are given a prepared Friday preach (khutba) and then checked that they have read it faithfully as they are recorded on tapes. Those scholars who do not comply with the ruler's rules are muzzled and or "put away" in jails or concentration camps. Most of today's regimes in "Muslim countries" don't want to let the Muslims learn about Islam that allows ordinary citizen to take to court the ruler himself in case of injustice nor they want them to learn about their right to call the dictator : dictator! if he is one (Wa Allah Akbar ala Kul mane tagha wa tajabar!).

It is in this context that the military Junta in Algeria has been trying to use Islam to "anaesthetize" the People while accusing authentic Islamists of using Islam "for partisan aims" as if the Islamists in Algeria have been hiding their political program from the Algerian People. The FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] political program have been presented to the People and the People have chose it. The ones who are using Islam for a selfish interest are those who order the killing of muslims inside mosques (there are ample photographic proofs for such massacres so that the collective memory may not forget!) and then talk to the Algerian People on TV about Islam with "hang over faces" eand "rock voices" while "seasoning" their speeches with Koranic citations.

As expected, the military regime in Algeria has formulated a "new electoral law" for electing its president. In the new "law" there is something for everybody Islamist, Berberism, Arabism you name it. The Junta is saying: "just come and vote so that we can show some credibility with the number of participants". Of course there are some practical modalities to eliminate some political personalities from the contest in case they ever change their minds and decide to participate. Such obstacles have been formulated in two clauses: to be candidate you need to have 75 000 electors signatures in "25" provinces (wilayats) of the existing 48. The other one is that the spouse of the candidate must be of an Algerian nationality. While the Junta is fiddling with the constitution, the Generals have presented to the People the show of "Boumaarafi trial" in the image of the gladiators show of Rome to divert their attention! What a good timing!

Praise be to Allah that the real political opposition are opposed to such elections despite being indirectly forbidden to express publicly their views to the People. And as Shaykh Rabah Kebir the FIS spokesman said last week: "such elections will not solve the problem and neither will they establish legitimacy." On the contrary if they are held, they will undoubtedly provoke as much damage as the coup d'Etat of January the 11th 1992 if not more.

The FIS warns the Junta about the so-called "Presidential elections"!

Shaykh Rabah Kebir — the president of the executive committee of the FIS overseas has warned the military regime in Algiers about the execution of its plan for the "presidential elections". In a discussion with the London based newspaper "Al-Hayah", Rabah Kebir has declared that elections under the present state of insecurity "will constitutes an adventure as dangerous as the coup d'Etat of the 11/01/92." He added that " the presidential elections under a such catastrophic security situation will not solve the problem and neither will they establish legitimacy." Shaykh Rabah Kebir also declared that the "FIS condemns all actions that are contrary to Islamic law or are aimed for the destruction of Algeria — People and land — be them from Islamists or their enemies. The issue is an issue of principles that transcends persons, affiliation or organisations what ever the name or appellation." Asked about a communique allegedly cited as to have emanated from the Algerian "Jamaa Al- Islamia A-Moussalaha" in which it menaces leaders in the FIS, Rabah Kebir said it was a forged communique and advices the Muslims to be vigilant about the destructive enemy infiltration within the ranks.

Ask about the possibility of a meeting outside Algeria between political parties with real representation which have signed the "National contract", Rabah Kebir said that: "Our brothers in the FIS (Ali Djeddi and Abdelkader Boukhamkham who were jailed with Shaykh Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj but were latter sent free) are in constant contact with those parties in Algeria and whenever possible, the FIS hold bilateral meetings overseas with those parties and all aspire in finding a solution to the crisis and to coordinate the efforts between the effective political opposition which aspires in stopping the bloodshed."

Finally asked about Mahfoud Nahnah attacks on the FIS and on him personally, Rabah Kebir said: "The oscillations in Mahfoud Nahnah political stands makes it difficult to follow them and even more so to answer them back!"

Thirty three death penalties ruled by the Junta "courts of Injustice"!

The Junta "courts of Injustice" has decreed thirty three death sentences in a period of a single week! Twenty of them were decreed by the tribunal of Tlemcen and thirteen by that of Oran. All of those sentences were given in absentia in order to "hit three (not two) birds with one stone"; that of preserving an image with international Human rights organisations, terrorising the population and pre-justifying future extra-judiciary junta assassinations. The military regime has always used "its laws" as a tool of oppression and political opponents elimination starting with the FIS leaders Dr Abassi Madani and Shaykh Ali Belhadj jailed unjustly and used as political hostages in vain!

Pasqua should have known that he can not win against Islam!

The French ex-minister of interior — Charles Pasqua — has been using his war against Islam during the entire period of office for electoral purposes coupled with his vengeful hatred to the religion itself. His last show before being kicked out was the "Historical act" (with respect of France's image of free expression) of censuring Dr Youcef El-Karadhawi's book — "The licit and illicit in Islam". In a Pasqua's decree of the 24/04/95 which made the circulation of the book in france illegal, it is stated that: " The distribution of the book in France constitutes a risk for the public order given its anti-Western tonality and the themes contrary to the Republican laws and values it contains." Once the electoral campaign was ended, a decree was published in the OFFICIAL JOURNAL of FRENCH

REPUBLIC signed by Pasqua stating the annulation of the previous decree for the simple raison that "IT WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR"!

Between an "Algeria bankrupted" and an "Algeria sold out", the Junta makes the jump!

The Junta has find away to sold out the country in a quite manner. According to the agreement signed in Paris on the 12/05/95 with the financial group the "London Club", the Junta is willing to convert the debt contracted by the military Generals in Algiers from private international lenders into ownership shares over the Algerian industrial infrastructure. Given the obsolete of the industrial network in general, it is expected that only companies related to hydrocarbon sector will be of value to the money lenders. And as more than 97 percent of the Algerian economical income is provided by the oil and gas industry, it is not difficult to conclude that the final phase of Algeria sell out has started and that the Junta may only need another "presidential mandate" to close the final deal; thus the "elections".

"Shine" [Zine] El Abidine Ben Ali,the Pharaoh of Tunisia insults the Ummah intelligence once more!

Once more, the dictatorial regime in Tunisia has shown no decency in the local elections which took place last Sunday and has apparently "won" a predetermined result of more than 99 percent of the votes at rate of participation exceeding 90 percent. This kind of result, beside being an insult to the Ummah intelligence, would surely make the dictators of the ex-East block and those of Africa jealous! It is however to note that the regime under the attractive and misleading political party name the "Constitutional and Democratic Assembly" (RCD) is "democratic" toward the Tunisian Communists Party (Ettajdid) which is a legal party and which has participated in these elections (by grouping with the PUP [Popular Unionist Party] and UDU [expansion unknown]) but considers the mere existence of Islamist parties an "Unconstitutional" act. The Tunisian Islamists are either in Pharaoh's jails (may Allah protect them) or in exile Shine El Abidine has always put "pressure" on "friendly countries" such as France and Spain to either expel and at best forbid political activity of the Tunisian Islamists in exile. In the History of Tunisia, this Pharaoh has surpassed his predecessor in the work of "de-Islamisation" of the country and its culture.

Jihad and Mujahidin News:

"We don't like to" beat around the bush", we prefer clarity and frankness even if it means to be hanged for what we believe to be a duty and a right. The struggle against the regime of the military junta has become a legitimate and lawful duty as demonstrated previously, in order to grab the right of the people to freely choose. " (Shaykh Abu Abdelfatah Ali BeLhadj in" Fasl el kalam fi mouajahate dolm el hokam" ("The conclusive criterion in confronting injustice from the rulers"). page 303. Book writen from cell No 09 in the Blida Military jail, 1992)

Note: The reduced volume of Jihad operations news is simply due to difficulties in communication.

Ben Talha: The Mujahidin have set up an ambush to a patrol of Junta paratroopers and after an intense exchange of fire, six Junta soldiers were killed, three Klashinkoves and a good quantity of ammunition were collected. A Junta army vehicle was destroyed.

Ouled Yaich: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta collaborator. In the same town, the Junta designated mayor who replaced the FIS elected mayor, has been shot dead.

El Harrach: A Junta police officer and a collaborator were killed.

Ouled Slama: The Mujahidin have set up an ambush to a gendarme patrol. Three soldiers of darkness were killed and two wounded.

El Massouma: A junta armed militia was killed and his weapon collected.

Dellys: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta police inspector and collected his automatic pistol Berretta. A Junta informer was executed after proven guilty of intelligence with the Junta secret police.

Benzerga: The Mujahidin have executed three Junta armed militia. Bouinam: During a roadblock set up by the Mujahidin, a Junta police officer and a policeman were killed.

Blida: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta secret police agent who worked in the transmission sector. Three Junta soldiers were also executed after questioning.

Jijel: According to a Mujahidin source, six Junta gendarmes were killed and their weapons collected. The Mujahidin are still having full control of the region at night despite the lies contained in the Junta army communiques saying that it has regain the control of the region.

Lakhdaria: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta police inspector and collected his weapon.Two Junta gendarmes were also killed in a cafe.

Larbaa: The Mujahidin have shot dead two Junta "special forces" soldiers and collected their two Klashinkoves.

Reportage from behind the iron curtain: What a reporter has seen in Algeria!

This is the second part of the reportage completed recently by Robert Fisk - journalist in the British newspaper "THE INDEPENDENT". On his return to England, Robert Fisk has written a lengthy report on Algeria which was published in "THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY" [untraced] of 16/04/95. Following is the second part of the report which includes added titles: The incompetency and docility of the Generals's valets (2):

Keramane enjoys my puzzlement and consternation. He blames the "terrorists", Islamic "gangs", men who have — and this is what he said — "brought an alien culture into Algeria". It is the only moment when he shows emotion, this attack on the identity of the government's enemies. But if this is about alien identity, I ask, what about Mr Keramane himself? He is speaking French rather than Arabic, is dressed in French clothes rather than an Algerian burnous gown; he received his degree from the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris. Who is he to talk about alien culture? "Actually", he says quietly, "my clothes come from London." The real outside world made of violence and blood:

It is like living in two worlds. As I leave Keramane's office, a bank official hands me a trade and investment profile which envisages 3 per cent growth, further foreign credit guarantees and a reduction in public debt. Like the front page of "EL MOUDJAHID" and the friendly announcer on television, it speaks of normality, a return to civilised life. Soon I will realise it is all a fantasy. In just 14 days' time, gunmen will shoot Rachida Hammadi, the friendly television announcer, critically wounding her and killing her sister, Houria, as the two women are walking to work not far from my hotel. A day later, it will be Ali Boukerbache's turn to die, the film-maker who produced the murderous videotape that is lying on my bedside table, shot in his car as he drives to his company offices east of Algiers. And Mohamed Abderahmani, the editor of "EL MOUDJAHID", the man who told us of "the massive support for presidential elections", he too has only 21 days left to live. He will be trapped by gunmen in a traffic jam on his way to work, still without the police protection he pleaded for, unable to flee from his car as the men fired nine bullets into his body. A week later, Rachida Hammadi will die of her wounds in a Paris hospital. Is Algeria's veneer of civilisation, its Francophone, nationalist soul,being cut down by a new Khmer Rouge — or "Khmer Vert" as the Algerian press calls them — which regards art and learning and culture as enemies, to be torn out of the country as cruelly as throats are sliced open? That, at least, is what the government would like you to believe. That is what the gendarmerie nationale tell you, the ski-masked policemen — the "ninjas", as they like to be called — who prowl the worst streets of Algiers to represent the government's fading authority. "Just a gang of terrorists" one of them says to me after we have been ambushed by roadside bombs in the countryside near Blida. "A small criminal gang, a band of them, that's all." I had been travelling with him when his patrol was attacked and had noticed how the cops, after the four huge bombs had blasted the roadway around us 200ft into the sky, had begun to pray, mouthing words from the Koran, that God is Great, that Mohamed (praise be unto him) is the prophet of God, that God is All-Merciful. It intrigued me, this praying, in a way I did not at first comprehend, lying by a ditch as the sky rained concrete and metal. It went on and on, for minutes, for an hour after the ambush, God is Great, God is Great, Thanks be to God. And it was only after we had found the wires that detonated the bombs, and tramped through the fields to the railway embankment where the Islamists had detonated them, that I understood. The police had thanked God for his mercy. But only seconds before the explosions, the bombers, lying here on this embankment, must have used the same words, must have quoted the very same words from the Koran, seeking God's grace and invoking the Prophet's name in their endeavour.

Even more remarkable were the historical parallels. Four decades ago, these same roads of the Mitidja plain were the scene of almost identical ambushes. Blida was a stronghold of the National Liberation Front, the FLN, the guerrilla army which eventually won independence for Algeria from French. Then it was the FLN which set off the bombs and the French who were ambushed. Now, in a postponed action-replay, the Algerian police are impersonating the role of the French, attacked as ferociously as their fathers once assaulted the colonial power. Somewhere in the recent past, it seemed, a culture had divided, a kind of historical fission which doomed the children of the revolution to re-enact the tragedy of their parents. And I remembered how, just a day earlier the Algerian prime minister, Mokdad Sifi, had tried to explain the phenomenon of "terrorism" by asking me if I had ever heard the name of MUSTAPHA BOUYALI. Those who have chosen to die standing up!

Mustapha Bouyali joined the FLN two years after its declaration of war. He was 16 years old and collected funds for the FLN in Al Achour (few kilometres from Algiers). In 1958, the French arrested him and imprisoned him for two years, but he escaped from their barracks at Blida and became an FLN officer in Algiers. There were other anonymous figures in the FLN at this time, colleagues of Bouyali, one of them — who tried to blow up a French government building — called ABASSI MADANI (the actual president of the FIS).

THE ENLIGHTENMENT on 'Illegitimate' Junta

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[Newsletter "publicizing the Islamic Struggle in Algeria, published by the FIS supporters in Europe" — received via Internet on 8 June]

[FBIS Transcribed Text]**Editorial**

IMF loans to the Illegitimate military Junta: The Algerian crisis is much deeper than what ever money can buy!

Praise be to Allah who Says: "They will not fight you together, except in fortified townships, or behind walls. Strong is their fighting (spirit) amongst themselves: you would think they were united, but their hearts are divided. That is because they are a people devoid of wisdom." (Koran Surat Al-Hashr, 59:14).

Dividing enemy ranks is an important rule in the ABC of classical military strategy, fighting the enemy ranks with enemy ranks is more modern and subtitle. In modern History, the first strategy is associated with colonialism whereas the second is a characteristic of the neo-colonialism.

Very few countries of the "third world" if any, are "untouched" by this modern disease in the international relations which is an advanced and "cost effective" way of domination that has surpassed yesterday's colonialism otherwise how can one explain the correlation between wealthy regions and instable regions?

Some people see in the wealth of the Ummah a blessing others see it as one of the principal retarding causes of muslims liberation and emancipation. How many times in modern History has the "Ummah genius" been seen at work in solving the muslims problems? The natural wealth have blocked the capacity of the Ummah thinkers to elaborate solutions to the Ummah's problems. The decision makers are persuaded to import "already made" models for their societies then persuaded again to import "already made" solutions to the problems of incompatibility or misfit of the imported model, then to import other solutions for the problems created by the previous imported solutions and then to import... meantime the natural resources are sold before even being discovered! Every muslim wakes up one morning and is told that he/she has a huge debt to pay! But don't worry uncle IMF has provided a solution (imported again!) to solve the problem he/she can go back to sleep! Since uncle IMF believes in numbers rather than in people, the miraculous solution will take more than a clash between the ruler and the population, to work if ever. Here is some more loans just sign that this piece of "underground" will be mine if you do not pay by tomorrow!

The IMF has lately granted the Military Generals in Algeria another loan (to be paid back by the People!) on the top of that an unrealistic positive report about future economical results that makes many industrial countries look relatively mediocre. There were only projections in the future! Without questioning the IMF or the Junta "crystal ball", one can not help to see that the IMF support to the Junta has largely gone beyond its economical nature to become of a political one used by some countries as a practical tool to achieve what they have planned for Algeria without going to the open! Ironically enough, the IMF report speaks about its loans as to bring "significative profit to the Algerian People"! A humanitarian aid if needed may be! But this kind of loan can only stretch the remaining life of the decadent regime and delay the end of the People nightmare! The Junta media has been exhibiting each loan it has received as some sort of a political acceptance by the international community of the illegal and illegitimate act of January 1992. Without the military, political and economical "injections" the Junta has received from outside each time its death approached, Algeria would have had by now legitimate leaders who decide in the name of the People and take her into the next century. But, obviously it is in the interest of some "hidden hands" who have their own geopolitical agenda in which only a weak Algeria is allowed to exist in the Middle East/North Africa map. Their actions converge to the objective of maintaining an equilibrium between the antagonists forces in conflict until the country reaches the predetermined level of weakness and then let go. They do know that the Islamists will be in power one day or another so they have started already "tightening up" the political initiative of the coming Algeria by a burden of a heavy foreign debt to be used as an instrument of "political orientation".

Others "hidden hands", more biased toward business opportunities and opening new markets, are convinced that a "pure and strong" dictatorship in Algeria is better for the business. These poles of interests take their convictions from the experience of some South American countries such as Brazil. It is anticipated that they will support the Junta show of "presidential elections" no matter how folkloric their achievement is. The absence of complaint from the International community of last week Tunisian local "elections" gives an idea about the recent trend of this kind of shortsighted vision. Extrapolating experiences and models from one country to another has shown its limitations. A very important factor most of the time disregarded by the "political fortune tellers" is the effect of the relatively recent History of the 1954/62 war on the "collective psychology" of the Algerian People (without chauvinism !) The Algerian People have sacrifice 15 percent of their people (that is a million and half million lives) for independence. This Historical fact did not stop there but was used by the "legacy of the Historical legitimacy" as a cultural basis in which the actual generation was purposely moulded in. The cultivators of that cultural fertile seed had in minde the perpetuation of that kind of legitimacy but history has proved them wrong at the popular uprising of October 1988.

The actual "historical actors" have been brought up to put Martyrdom for an ideal against oppression and for Justice well above material motivations. This way of thinking is embodied in Islam which has become the vehicle of change.

So reading the actual Algerian scene in the light of experiences in other countries can be surprisingly misleading!

The suffering of those women nobody speaks about!

Following is an extract from an article published in the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN of the 24/05/94 which illustrates a case amongst ten of thousands cases of women victims of the Junta barbary. These women do not have access to the media as the tiny ideological minority who pretends to "defend" in a PATERNALISTIC way, Algerian women "victim of oppression from the bearded fanatic husband, father, brother and son". Being strongly rejected by the Algerian women during the last free elections by such results as less than one percent of the casted votes (and made member of "parliament" by the Junta anyway!), these women have joined forces with the eradicators in the regime and are playing "ambassadors"(all expenses paid!) with a mission of "vibrating the sensible string" of overseas audiences against Islam and Islamists and by reflection, improving the relative image of the Junta. Here is the extract: "Lawyer Moustapha Boushashi believes the press is highly selective when it speaks of the plight of women in Algeria. "The voice you do not hear,because it has no access to the media, is that of women whose husbands have been in the Saharan detention camps for more than three years without charge, the mothers whose sons are prisoners or have been missing for months." Houria is one of those mothers. Early last year, the security forces came to her house in the crowded Kouba district of Algiers, in the middle of the night, in search of her eldest son, Mohamed. Houria says they fired shots into the air, but Mohamed managed to evade them and flee the house, so they detained her husband and another son instead. They appeared in court charged with HARBOURING A CRIMINAL and are now in prison.

The security forces came back a few months later, still in search of Mohamed. This time they took two more of Houria's sons and she has no news of them. "I looked everywhere. Even in the morgue. And every time I ask, they say:" They're dead. We've killed them."

Amnesty International believe there are many women in Algeria with stories like Houria's. They are poor, middle-aged women in head-scarves and shapeless gowns. Some of their sons have joined the armed groups; Amnesty says even those who did not are suspected by the authorities of sympathising, so are subject to detention, torture and unfair trials." (End of extract).

The lack of confidence starts to show up in the Junta plan of "self-election"!

The military Junta in Algeria has developed a certain speech these past few months which aims at presenting a facet of confidence concerning the self-declared "presidential elections". However the Mujahedeen attacks which the Junta can not cover with its "media censorship veil" and the Junta own decisions will usually come and shatter the mirror of false confidence. It was in this optic that the Junta has decided: — To force the state owned companies workers and in particular the management, to "defend" company assets from attacks by "terrorists"! According to the Junta minister delegated to local collectivities, as many as 16,000 weapons have been distributed by the Junta to such companies! What a nice gift to the Mujahidin!

The creation of "MOBILE VOTING BUREAU" to "increase the security of the operation". The Junta minister-delegated had also confirmed the recall of previous reserve army elements.

In his introduction, he has declared that only "tiny, very few, small, microscopic, 20 isolated mountainous districts are not under the full control of the Junta and the rest , that is the huge number of 1451 districts are !" It makes one wonder when is the Junta going to end the three and half years of curfew now that they pretend to be in full control. Concerning the "mobile voting bureau", people are asking what is next? Is the Junta going to go armed in every house with a voting box and "invite" the people to put the piece of paper in the box? More seriously, under international laws, elections under a state of emergency or exception, are already void, forcing people to vote on the top of that, does not have a rubric in the books of international law.

No expert could conceive at time of writing that such a fraud will ever exist!

he Junta "court of injustice" rules another 35 death penalties!

Thirty five new death penalties have been ruled by the Junta "court of injustice" after the 33 announced last week. This time it was the Junta tribunal of Bouira (East of Algeria) which has ruled the sentence. Once more all the 35 penalties have been ruled in absentia to terrorise the population without having to worry about international Human rights organisations.

The Junta recall previous army reserve contingents!

The acting head of the Junta General Zeroual has signed a decree calling previous army reserve contingents. The classes concerned at this time are those of 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991 classes. The "official" motive of calling this section of the Algerian People youth is apparently to "protect the people" during the so-called "presidential elections". It is to note that those who are members of Junta institutions such as the "parliament" set up by the Junta, the governors of provinces..., those who have a parent killed by "the terrorists", are not concerned by the draft. So are concerned just those without a proof of "anti-mujahidin" predisposition.

Jihad and Mujahidin News:

"we don't like to" beat around the bush", we prefer clarity and frankness even if it means to be hanged for what we believe to be a duty and a right. The struggle against the regime of the military junta has become a legitimate and lawful duty as demonstrated previously, in order to grab the right of the people to freely choose. " (Shaykh Abu Abdelfatah Ali BeLhadj in " Fasl el kalam fi mouajahate dolm el hokam" ("The conclusive criterion in confronting injustice from the rulers"). page 303. Book writen from cell No 09 in the Blida Military jail. 1992)

Oued Djare: The Mujahidin have attacked a Junta military convoy using explosives. The precise outcome of the operation is not yet known but many were killed in the Junta ranks. The Mujahidin regained their bases safely.

El Nassiria: The Mujahidin have shot dead five Junta policemen who were in a vehicle. All the weapons were collected.

Gue de Constantine: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta police inspector who worked in the Bourdj el Kiffan centre.

Blida: In two distinct operations, the Mujahidin have shot dead three junta soldiers in the localities of Bouguerfa and Boughiba.

Lakhdaria: The Mujahidin have set up an ambush to a Junta police patrol. Three Junta personals were shot dead and two were wounded. The Mujahidin returned to their bases safely and with bounty. Cite LA MONTAGNE:

The Mujahidin have executed a Junta personnel from the "special force" and a collaborator. A weapon was collected.

Casbah: The Mujahidin have executed a Junta secret police officer and two collaborators.

Leveilly: A Junta soldier and a Junta police inspector were shot dead by the Mujahidin and their weapons collected.

Bourdj El Kiffan: The Mujahidin have shot dead a junta inspector and a Junta bodyguard.

Boumerdess: The Mujahidin have shot dead a junta police inspector, an armed militia and a collaborator.

Bouzerhea: The Mujahidin have executed two Junta secret police agents and collected their weapons and identification cartes.

Climat de France: The mayor of Bourouba who has been offered the Job by the Junta to replace the FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] elected mayor, has been killed with his chauffeur.

Corso: The Mujahidin have set up an ambush to a Junta patrol from the "special forces". Six Junta personnel were killed, five Klashinkoves and a Berretta automatic pistol were collected.

Citee Fayez: The Mujahidin have set an ambush to a patrol of gendarmes. Three were killed and two wounded. The Mujahidin regained their bases safely.

El Harrach: The Mujahidin have shot dead a Junta secret police officer. His weapon,identification papers and his car were collected.

The carnage of the Junta red berets!

News from Berouaghia stated than about a month ago the junta have send its butcher of red berets battalion. Twenty people have been killed amongst them the brother Amari Omar who was a telecommunication technician and member of the elected council of the city of Berrouaghia.

The killing of an elected mayor!

The elected mayor of Medea of the FIS, Ali Ben Hadjar was assassinated by the Junta.

Reportage from behind the iron curtain: What a reporter has seen in Algeria!

This is the third part of the reportage completed recently by Robert Fisk journalist in the British newspaper "THE INDEPENDENT". On his return to England, Robert Fisk has written a lengthy report on Algeria which was published in "THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY" of 16/04/95 [untraced]. Following is the rest of the report which includes added titles: " And I remembered how, just a day earlier the Algerian prime minister, Mokdad Sifi, had tried to explain the phenomenon of "terrorism" by asking me if I had ever heard the name of MUSTAPHA BOUYALI." The History of those who have chosen to die standing up (2):

Mustapha Bouyali joined the FLN [National Liberation Front] two years after its declaration of war. He was 16 years old and collected funds for the FLN in Al Achour (few kilometres from Algiers). In 1958, the French arrested him and imprisoned him for two years, but he escaped from their barracks at Blida and became an FLN officer in Algiers. There were other anonymous figures in the FLN at this time, colleagues of Bouyali, one of them — who tried to blow up a French government building — called ABASSI MADANI (the actual president of the FIS). Independence brought no real peace to the Algerian victors. The surviving FLN leadership who had fought in the war were mostly deprived of power. Mustapha Bouyali, who joined the newly nationalised Algerian electronics company Sonelec immediately after the war, returned to arms within 12 months, in opposition to the dictatorship arguing that the "exterior" FLN leadership had no right to decide Algeria's future. He called a ceasefire when Ben Bella promised fair representation in the government. But in 1965, Houari Boumedienne, another of the FLN's old "exterior" leadership, seized power in a coup d'etat, earning for the regime Bouyali's further contempt. Bouyali and other former FLN comrades in arms began to meet secretly outside Algiers to discuss the failure of socialism and the possibility that an Islamic state might provide a new future for Algeria. "You must see that what's happening now in Algeria is the direct result of the opposition that Bouyali started in 1965," Abdul-Hadi Sayah, one of his old FLN comrades, told me." Our opposition wanted to work for a future without bloodshed. Islam was a fundamental part of our belief even when we fought the French. In our case our nationalist feelings were not as strong as our Islamic feelings... Our meetings were religious, yes. Our conversations in secret always started with readings from the Koran and we said "Allahu Akbar", as we did when the entered battle with the French. The Islamic trend was very strong in us." Bouyali's family still possess a photograph of Mustapha which shows him sitting cross- legged on the floor of a mountain cave, his hands uplifted in prayer, a Koran lying on the floor before him and a sub-machine-gun standing against the wall to his right. It was taken just a few months before his violent death. Mustapha Bouyali began lecturing in the Ashour (El Achour) mosque, assisted by a Sheikh who was later to become an Imam in France and who was — last year — to be arrested by the French police for involvement with the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) (Shaykh Abelhadi of Marsielle). Bouyali's brother Mohamed recalled that he talked about "Islam as a system of government... about political education in Islam. He denounced corruption... the whole village would be closed on Fridays because so many people came to hear Mustapha..." Police observation of Mustapha Bouyali continued when Boumedienne died and the even more corrupt Chadli Bendjedid took over.

In 1982, Algerian military intelligence decided to arrest Bouyali, surrounding his Ashour home with armed officers on the 28 April. Mohamed Bouyali showed me the back balcony from which his brother escaped. He took to the mountains after Chadli's secret police had murdered his brother in front of his children. Unreported by the supine press in Algiers, uncovered by foreign correspondents, Bouyali and his comrades went to war against the army and police in the old battlefields of the war of independence, in Medea and Lakhdaria and in the Mitidja plain. But on the night of 3 January 1987, apparently betrayed Bouyali was ambushed by the army and died, riddled with bullets on a hillside near Laarba. But his guerrilla forces continued to fight. (The Enlightenment will Incha Allah in the near future present the life of Mustapha Bouyali may Allah accept his martyrdom, from different sources and in more details.). The confiscated independence: Thus did the betrayal of the revolution against France lead to a historical repetition. As the FLN's dictators corrupted their country, so their original victory came to be seen as a betrayal, their Francophone, Western (if originally Soviet-style) clique a poor copy of the old French colonial regime. Their French culture — what Algerians refer to as "the damned inheritance" — suggested that nothing had changed.

No wonder, then, that the current Algerian leadership are acknowledging, at last, the nature of the threat which faces them. When the Algeria prime minister Mokdad Sifi asked me if I knew who Bouyali was, it was a kind of watershed, an acknowledgement of Bouyali's historical role, of the connections which bound him to the past as well as to the present. The 1954-62 conflict was a civil war as well as a war of independence;

Algeria was locked in an iron corset by years of post-war dictatorship. When the iron rusts, history picks up where it left off.

Press release: Terrorists in official uniforms!

The Algerian Community in Britain would like to inform the international public opinion about the extra-diplomatic mission of those who pretend to represent Algeria to the United Kingdom authorities.

A compromising document has reached the Algerian Community in Britain, a copy of which is attached, and which materially sustains the underground activities of the Algerian Embassy in London which targets the Algerians living in U.K..

What is clear from the above is that staff of the highest position in the Embassy are orchestrating a political policing operation against the Algerian community.

Officials from the embassy have been very active in mobilising public opinion via British authorities and media against opponents of the illegitimate and illegal military regime in Algeria. Their arguments are centred around their own conception of terrorism but do not hesitate to use terror against the Algerians living in Britain for the political purpose of making them participate in the elections planned by the military in Algiers (see point 5 of the document).

The Algerian Community in Britain strongly condemns the illegal actions of such officials and feel shame that people who do not even respect the laws of the host country, pretend representing Algeria.

The mafia style of thinking reflected in the document can only put those officials back to their own place; that of representing the illegal and illegitimate military Junta and themselves only.

The Algerian Community in Britain.

(Following is the integral content of the letter signed the Algerian Ambassador in London: Amar Bendjama. Photocopies of the original letter will be distributed with the Enlightenment and At- Tabsirah on Friday the 02/06/95 incha Allah).

ALGERIAN EMBASSY, 54 HOLLAND PARK, LONDON W11 3RS

Dear Ali,

I would like to thank you on my behalf and on behalf of all the embassy staff for the great work you have done to your country this illustrate the love you have always devoted to our dear homeland.

There is a big prize in the Consulate waiting for you to collect, if you can not travel to London ask one of your friend to collect it for you. Please note that from 1st April the Consulate will be open every Saturday from 09:00 to 17:00 its new telephone number is 0171- 589 6885 and the Fax number is 0171-7725.

Please do read and understand the following points: 1 — You should never telephone us from your own telephone but you should always use a public telephone.

2 — Keep in touch with your Embassy every so often and tell us about your needs.

3 — Work very closely with the one you trust and remember that not every one against fundamentalism is with us.

4 — Remember that the names you have reported to Mr Thabet (1) should also be reported to the police in Manchester. You should always mention the word Terrorist and try to convince them that if they don't take things seriously their country will also suffer from terrorists, to prosecute a terrorist fundamentalist you do not need to produce evidences to them, we are certain you will succeed.

5 — Tell your Algerian friends that you have heard, if somebody fail to fill the information form concerning the elections and send it back to the Embassy as soon as possible He, She or their family back home will be prosecuted in Algeria.

I assure you, my friend, of my brotherly consideration.

Amar Bendjama

Ambassador (Signature and Embassy stamp)

End of the letter..... (1) Previous ambassador in London.

Egypt

Musa Rejects 'Symbolic' Israeli Withdrawal

NC1506205995 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Associated Press today cited Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa as saying that the peace process still needs the support of all parties capable of pushing it ahead, including Egypt. He said the advancement of the peace process on the Palestinian-Israeli track requires true, not just symbolic, Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian territory. He said peace in the Middle East will be achieved when Israel is integrated in the Arab region, not when the Arab region is integrated with Israel.

On the situation in the Arab world, 'Amr Musa stressed the need to end the Arab differences that resulted from the Gulf war so that the Arab countries can build a regional order in the future. He stressed the need for coordination, consultations, and solidarity among the Arab countries vis-a-vis the various political and economic challenges faced by the Arab world today, such as economic liberalization and religious extremism.

On terrorism in Egypt, the foreign minister pointed out that the phenomenon is not exclusive to Egypt. He noted the destructive explosion in Oklahoma City in the United States and the release of fatal gas in Japan. He emphasized that extremists cannot score any success in Egypt because Egyptian society rejects them.

Al-Baz Views Peace 'Framework' for Israel, Syria

NC1506194495 Paris AFP in English 1736 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, June 15 (AFP) — Israel and Syria will probably reach a "framework" for a peace treaty by next April, 'Usama al-Baz, the political advisor to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak told a government newspaper on Thursday [15 June].

"One can safely expect Syria and Israel to reach a framework for an agreement during the spring, some time in March or April," al-Baz told Al-Ahram Weekly.

Al-Baz said Syria and the Jewish state agreed that resolving security arrangements for an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, occupied in 1967, was the key to addressing other issues of peace.

Agreement on security arrangements "would make it easier for the parties to speak in specific terms about withdrawal, the establishment of relations and the link between withdrawal and establishment of relations," he said.

It would also "enable Israel to accept the concept of full withdrawal, knowing what is going to happen afterwards."

The Syrian and Israeli chiefs-of-staff are to meet in Washington on June 27 to discuss security on the heights.

Israel has proposed a phased pull-out from the strategic plateau, during which Syria would begin normalizing relations with Israel. Syria wants a full withdrawal before peace is implemented.

Al-Baz expressed optimism that Israel and the PLO would meet a July 1 deadline for an accord on redeployment of Israeli troops away from Palestinian towns in the West Bank in preparation for self-rule elections and the transfer of civil powers to the Palestinians.

"You have almost full agreement on elections and something close to agreement on redeployment," he said.

Over redeployment "there are still a number of controversial issues," he said — particularly an Israeli proposal for a two-stage redeployment.

Israel wants to "first withdraw from certain cities then... delay redeployment in other areas to a later stage," he said.

He said the only dispute between the two sides over elections centered on the right of east Jerusalem's Palestinians to run for office in an autonomy council. Israel was to limit them to voting for candidates.

He underlined the importance of the deadline "even if some consider it a target date," as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has termed it.

If the date is missed, the parties "might get into a long delay which could derail the negotiations," he said.

Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid said Thursday that it was "unrealistic" to expect to work out a total redeployment by July 1 and urged the PLO to accept a deal for a partial pullback in the West Bank.

Al-Baz said he expected Israel to dismantle its nuclear weapons program within three to five years as peace with Arabs strengthened. Israel "may maintain (its program) for a few years but not for a long period," he said.

He added that Egypt's campaign to win Israeli membership to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty before its indefinite extension in May was not intended to embarrass Israel.

"We have no interest in weakening or embarrassing (Rabin's) government. It is working for peace and, unlike some previous governments, it is willing to give and take. The Israeli government has shown some flexibility," he said.

Foreign Ministry Official on G-7 Summit, 'Terrorism'

NC1506144995 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Egypt has expressed the hope that today's summit of industrial states in Halifax, Canada will find the appropriate solutions for reforming international financial organizations, confronting the problem of international terrorism, and putting an end to the current fighting in Bosnia.

Assistant Foreign Minister 'Adil al-Safti said the industrial states summit will discuss a number of economic and political issues. It will also discuss international terrorism, noting that Egypt was a pioneer in drawing the world's attention to the danger of this phenomenon.

President Mubarak has repeatedly stated that terrorism is not confined to a certain country or region but has become an international phenomenon. Therefore, international cooperation is needed to confront it.

Labor Party Leader Shukri Interviewed

[Interview with Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Labor Party, in Cairo; date not given — first two paragraphs are AL-HAYAH introduction"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Confirming the alliance with the Muslim Brotherhood and the Liberals in the parliamentary elections, Ibrahim Shukri calls upon Mubarak to give up his role in the ruling party.

The head of the Egyptian opposition Labor Party, the engineer Ibrahim Shukri, called upon President Husni Mubarak to give up his role in the ruling National Party in order to ensure "a rotation of power between political parties" in Egypt. In an interview with AL-HAYAH, he later accused this party of "conspicuous intervention" in the past legislative elections. He confirmed that his party would take part in the elections set for this year for the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council as part of a tripartite alliance that would include the prohibited Muslim Brotherhood and the Liberal Party. What follows is the text of the interview.

[AL-HAYAH] Will the Labor Party enter the elections for the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council that are set for this year?

[Shukri] I ask that God grant us success in what we hope to achieve by entering the elections for the semireorganization [al-tajdid al-nisfi] of the Consultative Council and the People's Assembly (the parliament).

[AL-HAYAH] Will you enter these elections as the Labor Party or as part of a tripartite alliance (Labor, Liberals, Muslim Brotherhood) despite what happened in the 1987 elections?

[Shukri] Logic dictates that we use all the means at our disposal to express our principles while presenting our electoral programs. We must employ the means that will make nongoverning parties and political movements unaffiliated [ghair al-manduwiya] with political parties a factor that is able to confront the ruling party, which still looks and acts the way it always has. This is confirmed by the fact that the ruling party does not give consideration to implementing the slogan it has proclaimed since the start of political pluralism during the time of the late President Anwar Sadat. I mean the experiment by which "pulpits" [al-manabir] became political parties and the constitutional change that specifies that the political system in Egypt would be based on a multiplicity of political parties instead of one organization whose mouthpiece was the Arab Socialist Union. The methods and practices of the National Party show that it intends to maintain the appearance but not the substance of pluralism.

Therefore, alliances and coordination are necessary. Serious efforts must be made to obtain guarantees that will make these real elections, without interference from the ruling party by means of appointing the governors who head all the administrative organizations in the governorates, the mayors, village chieftains and sheikhs. The ruling party appoints all of them, in addition to using and exploiting several aspects of the emergency regulations in order to constrain and conspicuously interfere in the elections. For example, during the 1987 elections for the People's Assembly, the Emergency Law was used to arrest on election night 1,500 citizens who represented opposition candidates in many important districts, so as to prevent representatives from opposition parties from participating in the electoral committees that were dominated by representatives of the ruling party. Logic dictates that the opposition parties in general should not only try to understand the situation and demand an improvement in it, but should also demand an end to election fraud such as "stuffing" ballot boxes with the ballots of voters who did not show up to vote. This happens in an ugly way. It often happens that the number of ballots inserted in ballot boxes far exceeds the number of votes recorded in the electoral rolls. There is an well-known expression that is frequently repeated during Egyptian elections; it is "this or that committee made its mark [sawwadat]." This means that all those whose names are listed in the electoral rolls would have a mark placed in front of their names to show that they had voted, including those who had died, emigrated, were hospitalized, or could not vote for one reason or another. An impossible situation arises because the level of voter participation in some committees is 100 percent.

[AL-HAYAH] What guarantees do you want for the elections?

[Shukri] We believe that the voter should present his personal or family identity card when casting his ballot and that he should sign the electoral roll or make a fingerprint if he can neither read nor write.

Women living at home should be allowed to vote if they furnish the identity cards of their fathers if they are single or the identity cards of their husbands if they are married. I call upon all the serious parties who receive votes and hold views that are free from government influence not to give the ruling National Party more influence than it already has because President Mubarak is its leader.

We say that President Mubarak has an important role to play in the future of Egypt, its stability, and in defending the sound practice of democracy. We are asking him for a rotation in power among the political parties — the essence of democracy — and for the people to have a real choice. For this reason, I call upon President Mubarak to give up his active role in the ruling National Party so that he could be the president of all Egyptians who belong to different political parties. It is not necessary for the ruling party to have a majority of 94 percent in the People's Assembly; it could rule with a majority of 60 percent. That would not be detrimental to our form of government, but would give parliamentary life meaning and respect. There are real opportunities for political interaction among the ranks of the people so that each party will give what it has to offer. These efforts will influence Egyptian life in general, whether it be the extent of present stability or the extent of real opportunities for the people to find a way to implement the ideas and efforts of the political parties.

[AL-HAYAH] But what about entering the elections as part of an Islamic alliance?

[Shukri] During my tour of a number of governorates throughout Egypt, I found a desire in the Labor Party and other political movements to work to change the present situation: We have talked about a feeble People's Assembly in which there is almost no true opposition. There must be a coordinated effort in the coming election battles. I announced that the previous experiment of an alliance with the Muslim Brotherhood and the Liberals was a success. On the basis of my study of the efforts of the masses, I say that I shall strive to continue the alliance, whose slogan, "Islam is the solution," is an idea acceptable to the masses [al-qawa'id al-sha'biyyah]. This means that the basic principles of Islam can form a framework that will help each Egyptian to give his best, especially if election programs present detailed solutions to basic problems. One of those problems is gunfire, whether it is some of the people killing police officers or the police making victims out of citizens. This problem needs to be treated, not just by taking security measures or guarding a few senior officials, but also by removing any kind of ambiguity or misunderstanding in order to clarify the truth of our true Islamic religion, which called for societies based on justice and solidarity.

The problem of unemployment needs to be treated. A balance between incomes and prices should be guaranteed. Health care for the poor and proper housing for each citizen should be provided.

[AL-HAYAH] You mentioned that you will form an alliance with the Liberals and the Muslim Brotherhood. What do you say in response to official statements that state that the Muslim Brotherhood is an illegal organization whose members are not allowed to take part in parliamentary and other elections?

[Shukri] In view of the fact elections are not conducted on the basis of lists, until now there has been nothing to prove that this or that candidate belongs to the Muslim Brotherhood or any other group. This is especially true because there is a principle that states that he who has the right to vote has the right to become a candidate unless a legal injunction prevents him from doing this. There is no other legal means to prevent any individual from presenting himself as a candidate merely because he embraces a certain idea or political orientation. People are able to differentiate between candidates, their ideas, and orientations in order to decide who deserves to represent them.

[AL-HAYAH] But isn't the slogan of a tripartite alliance (Labor, Liberals, and the Muslim Brotherhood) an indication that the Muslim Brotherhood will have a presence in the electoral arena?

[Shukri] This is not one of the slogans we shall use. We are content with the slogan "Islam is the solution," whether it makes some happy or angers others. We emphasize that this slogan is drawn from the Egyptian constitution, which stipulates that the Islamic Shari'ah is the basic source of legislation, not a basic source. The constitutionality of any law that violates the Islamic Shari'ah can, of course, be challenged.

[AL-HAYAH] The security services as well as some of the judicial authorities have accused some members of the Muslim Brotherhood of involvement in terrorist acts.

[Shukri] It is not possible to put an end to what people say about this subject because some of them talk about historical events that took place more than 40 years ago. Through my dealings with the Muslim Brotherhood, I have seen that they obey the law and do not call for violence. They only talk about obeying the law, following legal customs, and adhering to public decency.

[AL-HAYAH] What is the place of the Nasserites and the Copts in the electoral lists of the Labor Party for the next elections?

[Shukri] The Labor Party wants to have Copts in its ranks. It is striving for this more than the National Party is. I remember that during the 1987 elections we had one Coptic candidate, Asad 'Abd al-Mallak. He headed the Labor Party list in Asyut. He was a member of the Alignment Party before joining the Labor Party. Doing this ran counter to all electoral calculations.

Some people asked us to place him second on our electoral list, but we stuck to our position and Asad 'Abd al- Mallak won first place on the list. Whereas we found that the National Party placed Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrous Ghali at that time in third place in one of the electoral districts in Cairo. We are also striving for women to have a presence in the elections. We have an active committee for women's affairs that played a positive and active role in assisting flood and earthquake victims, as well in the eradication of illiteracy. As for the Nasserites, we do not reject them, because we were Nasserites in the sense that we believed and took pride in Arab nationalist principles even before the July 1952 revolution. Before the revolution, however, President 'Abd al-Nasir was a member of the Young Egypt movement whose ideas we have adopted since the 1930's, such as the desire for national and Arab unity and the necessity of Arab alliance and unity.

[AL-HAYAH] Will you have candidates in the different electoral districts at the national level, or are you going to abandon some districts by not having a presence in them?

[Shukri] I cannot now make a decision on this matter because it requires study. But I am calling for having one opposition candidate in each electoral district and doing this in coordination with the opposition parties. It is possible that we shall leave some of the electoral districts to the honorable leadership of the National Party in them, that is to individuals who have played an acknowledged role in national politics. This will be the exception not the rule.

[AL-HAYAH] The Labor Party is one of the main parties that boycotted the past elections for the People's Assembly. What is estimation of trying to withdraw from parliamentary life?

[Shukri] The call to boycott these elections was an attempt to send a signal [li-daqq al-ajras] to the government and the National Party that entering the elections just to enter them was unnecessary. It was also a way of saying that there should be a reliable expression of the public's will and that real opportunities should be given to the people so that all views and perspectives will be represented. We prepared a document explaining our views that was signed by the parties. The National Party, however, attached no importance to it. For this reason most of the Egyptian political parties, except for the Alignment Party, boycotted the elections.

Government Seen Pursuing Corrupt Officials

95LD0074A Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 12 May 95 pp 56-57

[Article by Ghaly Muhammad: "Corruption of Officials: 295 Officials Turned Over to the Courts"]

[FBIS Translated Text] During the past quarter century, 41 civil servants were turned over to the courts. In the past year alone, there have been 31 convictions. The oversight agencies sent Ahmad Anis, the head of the northern and central al-Giza district, forward to the state security supreme court for accepting a bribe from a contractor. Because of the same agencies, Health Ministry first deputy minister Dr. Subhy 'Abd-al-Rahim is being tried before the state security supreme court, in an emergency session, over the rotten meat case. Whether these two high officials are found guilty or innocent, the result will be the same. The state is indisputably the one that is exposing corruption and turning it over for prosecution. It is not covering up for the corrupt official, be he a deputy minister or even a minister. No one, high or low, is beyond oversight or even prosecution. If there are some who mistakenly imagine that the fall of a corrupt civil servant can be considered proof that corruption strikes at the very core of the government, these individuals forget — accidentally or intentionally — that it is the government who exposes this corrupt official. If it wanted to protect its employee, why did it expose him? This is the difficult equation, and this is also the task of the oversight agencies, led by the administrative oversight agency...the agency charged with exposing corruption and corrupt officials.

From this standpoint, we began the quest for an answer to the question: "Does the government protect corrupt officials, and does it cover up crimes of corruption?" This justifiable question is responded to by Major General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman, head of the administrative oversight apparatus, who has abandoned his usual silence to say, using the language of the investigator, "This is not true. If it were, the incidences of corruption, including cases of graft by civil servants, that the administrative oversight agency is exposing daily, without distinguishing between senior or junior officials, would not have been caught."

He adds frankly, "Egypt is one of the primary states in which the law, its legislators, and the state are confronting the problems of government corruption, including graft. There is no cover-up for the dishonest. The administrative oversight agency, a government agency, is working to expose corruption on the part of any employee of any government agency, which reflects the state's interest in pursuing corruption in all its forms and its tireless efforts to protect society from those exploiting their official status, who form a breach in the state's administrative apparatus."

And our question about the cases that confirm this rosy picture of the administrative oversight agency's work?

The agency's reports confirm that there is currently greater enforcement of antigraft laws than ever before. The figures show the extent to which the state's agencies are complying with the antigraft observations and recommendations made by the administrative oversight agency. From Major General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman's words, [we go] to the figures that show that from 1951 to 1975, before the passage of current graft law no. 62 of 1975, the average number of financial misconduct cases investigated by state agencies annually was 25,000, with only 41 cases being turned over to the courts during this period, of which two resulted in conviction and nine were exonerated.

After passage of the antigraft law, we find last year's statistics revealing that 250,000 financial misconduct cases were investigated, and the number of cases turned over to the courts on graft charges rose to 295 cases in 1994. Of these, 31 were convicted and 233 were exonerated. [The numbers of convictions and exonerations do not add up to the number of cases turned over to the courts.]

These statistics are good evidence of the agency's seriousness about pursuing corruption, but what do the administrative oversight agency's files say?

In them are a number of examples of cases that were caught, which confirms that graft by public officials — high or low, enjoying parliamentary immunity or not — is being pursued.

There is the file of Dr. 'Abd-al-Hamid Hasan, former governor of Giza and accused in case no. 4826 of 1989, in which he received on 26 October a one-year suspended jail term and was ordered to make restitution of 198,000 Egyptian pounds (LE) to the state.

There is also a recent file for former People's Assembly member Tawfiq Zaghlul, accused of taking bribes from some agents in contract bids when he was president of the Tanta Firm for Oils and Soap. The court ordered him to be imprisoned for three years in one of four cases against him; he currently is serving the sentence in the Tanta prison.

There is a file for Dr. 'Ali 'Abd-al-Ghany 'Atta, former chairman of the board of the National Company for Cement and accused in case no. 23 of 1992 (east Cairo). On 29 June of last year he was sentenced to a five-year imprisonment and fined LE12 million. He and his family were obliged to make restitution of a similar amount to the national treasury.

There is also the case of Mahmud Muhammad Rashwan, director of housing for one of the Upper Egypt governorates, who has case no. 262 (Asyut). He was sentenced on 5 August 1991 to three years in prison and an LE1.4 million fine.

Then there is Fakry 'Azer 'Abd-al-Shahid, director general of a state company and accused in case no. 1573 of 1989 (al-Muntazah). On 18 May 1990, he received a sentence of three years in prison, an LE1.6 million fine, and restitution of the same amount to the national treasury.

The Secret Dossiers

This is what has been exposed and turned over for prosecution. What do the administrative oversight agency's secret reports say?

The most serious of these is a file on an employee of the upper administrative level, who illegally enriched himself and in less than three years had purchased a villa, three apartments, an empty lot in the Giza governorate, a luxury car, a cash account in one of the banks, and a quantity of gold jewelry.

There is also a report exposing and proving collusion by a number of civil servants in the Red Sea Governorate to distribute and sell public lands for an illegal profit. This case, which is still being investigated by the Public Prosecutor, involves a number of officials and is expected to be resolved shortly.

Some officials in the Nasr City district were arrested for colluding with some contracting firms to violate the law for the purpose of financial gain.

The housing director of the al-Zaytun district was caught in the act of taking a bribe of LE15,000 from a contractor.

In addition, some officials of the National Insurance Company were involved in collusion with some lawyers' offices in stealing insurance monies paid out by the company as compensation. The amounts stolen were estimated at approximately LE712,000. There are three significant examples. The first involves the head of the Central Administration for Contracts, Acquisitions, and Warehouses assigned to the Public Transportation Agency. The second is the former director general for cooperatives at the Cairo Company for Oils and the head of the production sector at the same company. The third example is the former president of the Misr Company for Foreign Trade.

The High-Ranking Official

The question: Why does a high-ranking official become corrupt? All the reports indicate that corruption is primarily concentrated in higher-ranking employees who belong to the upper administrative level, that is to say, who are paid highly, whether in an administrative agency, local agencies, or companies in the works sector. The fall of one of these is a shock to public opinion. Some imagine erroneously that high-ranking officials are above the law, not only because of their rank but because through their fall they will drag other high officials down with them, thus making it safer to prevent them from falling and cover up their crimes indefinitely!

Perhaps the administrative oversight agency's explanation for corruption by high-ranking officials is logical: The official who becomes the head of an important agency always makes light of the position, no matter how high a position he attains or how high his salary is. He sees the income he receives as merely pennies, in an attempt to justify leaving the job or using it for illicit profit. There are those who leave their positions and work in business, but some are not content with this and instead head for the forbidden money obtained from lowly citizens who must rely on them to determine their fates. This is the official who has fallen in our case, demanding LE5,000 from a cafe owner in return for giving him back part of his cafe that had been seized by the building's owner. Then there is the public official who took advantage of his important position to attain financial stability, no matter what the cost to his dignity and that of his position, by demanding a bribe from a citizen and going so far as to demand purchase of an apartment from him at a price of no more than LE35,000 when its true value was more than LE70,000. Obtaining illegal income became his one and only goal.

Are these the only forms of corruption by public officials?

No... but these are the major ones. There is another kind of corruption of the private-sector employee, as represented by an official of a private airline company who was caught smuggling and hiding the smuggled goods in critical parts of the aircraft that are not supposed to be opened or fooled around with except by technicians. Even though he was the aircraft's pilot, he did not care that he was putting citizens' lives or his country's reputation and that of national airline companies in danger. Of course, an airline pilot cannot engage in this kind of activity without assistance from members of the company's ground service crew and others and without the company's knowledge, which indicates that the crime is not that of an individual as much as of an organization.

Another kind of even stranger and more deviant crime that led to the corruption of a civil servant goes along with this. The instigator of the corruption was a student no more than 20 years old, the son of a successful millionaire industrialist. The student thought that the social status his family had achieved entitled him to purchase the consciences of some officials in the institute in which he was enrolled. He feigned illness, composing a scenario of events beyond the capabilities of the most accomplished movie director. With the agreement of the director of an investment hospital and its laboratory, he faked a serious illness requiring hospital treatment and came to an agreement with the institute's dean and some of the instructors on their roles in the play in return for cash bribes. They agreed to form a fictitious committee to supervise his exams in the hospital and to bring him the questions and answers. Even more than this, however, the aforementioned instructors were to take the exams for him. How strange that the institute would agree to this in return for an LE1000 bribe.

Seven Cases a Month

Going back to the numbers may make the picture a little clearer. What do this critical agency's numbers reveal?!

In 1993-94, the administrative oversight agency exposed 84 crimes against public property, at a rate of seven cases per month, including embezzlement, theft of public property, assisting in the theft of public property, intentionally damaging public property, and fraud in supply contracts. All of these cases were turned over to investigatory authorities. The total value of the public property involved in these cases was LE110 million. Some highlights of the cases:

— Case no. 294 of 1994, in which a governorate official was accused of assisting in a citizen's misappropriation of 175,000 square meters of state land valued at approximately LE80 million by using falsified documents;

— Case no. 772 of 1993, public property, in which some officials of a food safety and agricultural development firm were accused of conspiring to provide imported seeds to some of the company's agents illegally, resulting in LE24 million of damage to the company's financial position;

— Case no. 193 of 1993, al-Minya civil offenses, in which an official of a private-sector company working in industry and commerce was accused of evading customs duty owed on some shipments of imported foodstuffs, estimated at LE2 million.

Employee Negligence

What about cases of employee negligence in the government sectors?!

Major General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman says, "While the state is fighting the illegal enrichment of civil servants to protect public property and combat corruption, there is also concern for discipline and ensuring that employees carry out their duties. This is done through transfers and imposition of the appropriate administrative penalties on officials and workers due to their commission of financial or administrative violations or for poor performance. The role of the administrative oversight agency ends with exposing the civil servant's violations and presenting what it has discovered to state officials so they can act as they see fit. Within the last year alone, these officials have implemented recommendations by the administrative oversight agency that included dismissing 161 chairmen of the board, commissioners and board members, dissolving seven boards of companies, associations, and sports unions, and dismissing 10 deputy ministers and 16 director generals for taking advantage of their positions.

"In addition, administration actions were taken against 339 employees on other levels. During this period the administrative oversight agency cooperated with state officials to turn 371 employees over to the courts for commission of crimes, including 257 employees of the administrative apparatus, 56 employees of the public works sector, and 58 employees of the private sector in 163 crimes exposed by the administrative oversight agency. Most of the crimes involved misappropriation of public property and bribery."

Are not some parties calling for investigation of cases within the administrative oversight agency itself, such as the ministries, the governorates, etc.?

"There are ministers, governors, and officials who are asking the administrative oversight agency to research some claims, with these claims amounting to 330 during the last six months of last year, a 50-percent increase over the same period in 1993.

"Enough of facts. Corruption is corruption, whether in the private or public sector. It has certainly been proven that corruption is not being covered up and that it is the state that is fighting and exposing corruption without covering up for anyone. Officials do not fear a rumor that the fall of some higher-up will reveal otherwise or that those who love to fish in muddy waters will take it as proof that corruption strikes at the very heart of the government and the regime. The state is continuing to pursue corruption everywhere."

Sudan

Official: U.S. al-Mahdi Statement Lacks 'Honesty'

EA1506203695 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The director of the Political Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry, Dr. Anwar al-Hadi, has described the statement of the USA's State Department on the detention of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi as lacking honesty, adding that it is an intervention in Sudan's domestic affairs.

Speaking at the regular press meeting of the Foreign Ministry, Dr. Hadi said that the USA's State Department was also characterized by tactlessness when it stated that Dr. Hasan al-Turabi was the de facto ruler of Sudan.

He noted that the statement alleged that Sudan's Government was unwilling to reconcile with the opposition, stressing that the American administration ignored the successive amnesty declarations by the government for those who are hostile toward the revolution, and the return of many citizens to the homeland due to that amnesty.

It is to be recalled that the American State Department last Sunday [11 June] issued a statement referring to the USA's concern with the detention of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and a number of his supporters, following a speech during the last Id al-Adha, or greater Bairam. The statement demanded the immediate release of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and his aides.

Report: U.S. Statement 'Interference'

MM1506113395 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 14 Jun 95 p 5

[Report by Kamal Hamid: "Khartoum: Washington's Call for al-Mahdi's Release Constitutes Interference in Our Affairs"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Khartoum — The Sudanese Foreign Ministry has described the contents of a press bulletin issued by the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum as "improper and dishonest" and constituting "flagrant interference in our internal affairs." The bulletin was citing White House official comment on the arrest of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, former Sudanese prime minister and Ummah Party leader.

The bulletin carried the U.S. Administration's call for al-Mahdi to be released or given a fair trial. Khartoum's reaction came at a press conference held by Dr. Anwar al-Hadi, head of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry, who told AL-HAYAH after the press conference that the U.S. statement was improper because it referred to Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, chairman of the Arab and Islamic People's Conference, as the real president of Sudan.

Al-Hadi said that the U.S. statement was dishonest because it claimed that the Sudanese Government was not treating its political opponents well. He said: "We did not expect the U.S. Administration and its embassy in Khartoum to ignore the international and diplomatic recognition [of the Sudanese regime] and to describe Dr. al-Turabi as the real president. It (the Administration) overlooked the fact that the government has more than once declared a general amnesty for all oppositionists, including those who took up arms, and urged them to participate in political activity within the country."

He added: "The U.S. Administration's statement and the bulletin issued by the embassy in Khartoum were untruthful and will not help promote good relations. We hope that, in the future, the conduct between governments will be kept within the context of international charters and mutual respect." Al-Hadi continued: "The embassy's bulletin citing the White House's official spokesman came a whole month after the arrest of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and was widely circulated in the capital Khartoum before officially reaching the Foreign Ministry."

Meanwhile, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment on the hijacking of a UN aircraft in southern Sudan which was forced to land in Chukudum, which is under the control of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement. A number of Sudanese officials were taken prisoner in the incident. At his press conference al-Hadi said: "We refuse to comment on the matter for security reasons pertaining to the safety of the people concerned. Everything will be announced at the appropriate time."

Assembly Condemns U.S. Sanctions Against Iran

EA1406204895 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Transitional National Assembly [TNA] has condemned and voiced its opposition to the U.S. method of imposing sanctions in order to provoke, and to intimidate all states in the world.

In a statement issued to mark the beginning of the trade sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the TNA's foreign relations committee stresses its support for, and solidarity with the Iranian people, parliament, and government. It calls on parliaments of the Arab and Muslim states, and all Third World states, to stand up against arrogance and imperialism.

The statement says the decision [to impose sanctions] will not affect Islamic Iran in any way and will, on the contrary, affect those companies and interests that abide by the U.S. President's decisions that are meant to please the U.S. Zionist lobby. It adds that even the U.S.'s traditional allies did not respond positively to the U.S. call to enlist their cooperation in the economic sanctions against Iran because they want to protect their interests. It said such conduct will only serve to isolate the United States.

Bahrain

Government Sources Confirm 200 Detainees Released

MM1406145195 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Jun 95 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Bahrain Releases 200 Detainees Arrested in Riot Incidents"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] London, Manama, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT — Bahraini Government sources confirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday a report on the release of a large number of detainees arrested in recent riot incidents, pointing out that more could be released within the next few days.

The sources said that about 200 detainees have been released, and that about 100 others will be released once investigations with them have been completed.

The sources pointed out that the competent courts are still examining four main cases relating to the riot and subversive actions. But they are criminal cases relating to crimes of premeditated murder. [passage omitted]

Oman

Government Urges Iraq To Cooperate With UN

NC1506175895 Paris AFP in English 1401 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Muscat, June 15 (AFP) — Oman on Thursday [15 June] urged Iraq to cooperate more with the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) on disarming Baghdad, to end economic sanctions imposed on the country after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"It is in Iraq's interest to cooperate more with UNSCOM because the embargo will not be lifted until the special commission says it is convinced there are no more weapons of mass destruction in Iraq," an Omani cabinet minister said.

"This special commission has found there are still areas where Iraq is not cooperating enough," Yusuf Bin-'Alawi, minister of state for foreign affairs, told the Al-Ittihad newspaper in the United Arab Emirates.

Bin-'Alawi, whose country is a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, asked Baghdad to "apply all UN Security Council resolutions to get the embargo lifted."

"Iraq is urged to change its attitude (toward the UN) so we can help it and obtain a lifting of the sanctions which weigh heavily on the Iraqi people. We hope it can understand this truth," he said.

Muscat has communicated its position to Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, who visited Oman recently, he said.

"He promised us that his country would settle (the outstanding problems) soon, but nothing has happened," Bin-'Alawi said.

"There is an escalation of differences between Baghdad and UNSCOM, which is not in Iraq's interest," he said.

Oman was the only Gulf monarchy to maintain good relations with Baghdad during the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.

Iraq plans to stop cooperating with UNSCOM on disarmament unless sanctions are eased, Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan said Wednesday.

Saudi Arabia

Police Reportedly Crack Down on Shiite Town

LD1506110095 Tehran IRNA in English 1036 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New Delhi, June 15, IRNA — Saudi police launched Wednesday night a crackdown on Shia residents of Awamia town of eastern province of Saudi Arabia to crush their protest against confiscation of their lands by royal authorities, an Indian doctor in Saudi Arabia informed IRNA on telephone today.

About 300 protesters have been arrested and many more rendered homeless in the last night crackdown, the above-mentioned source, told IRNA on the condition of anonymity

It may be noted that Shia dominated areas in eastern province of Saudi Arabia contain huge reservoirs of oil, with local people losing their landed properties without being, as reported, adequately compensated each time the royal government takes up an oil-related activity in that area.

Denied of civic amenities, their due share in oil wealth and fortunes of economic development in Saudi Arabia, the Shia population of that country still remains a deprived lot.

Their disenchantment bursts in form of demonstrations and protests, which, in turn, are forcibly quelled by the Saudi authorities.

Daily Laments Israeli 'Procrastination' in Talks

JN1506164795 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 10 Jun 95 p 29

[From the "Spotlight" column by Jasir 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Jasir: "A New Israeli Game"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yitzhaq Rabin has not allowed observers who followed Warren Christopher's Middle East tour, which he started on 8 June, to become too optimistic. Following the tripartite meeting that brought him together with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Rabin made a statement that amounted to a bombshell whose shrapnel is bound to hit and damage Christopher's current efforts, particularly with regard to the Palestinian-Israeli talks. In the aftermath of the tripartite meeting, Yitzhaq Rabin said that the 1 July deadline set by the Palestinians and Israelis for reaching agreement on expanding self-rule to the rest of the West Bank is only a target date, and not a deadline.

Rabin added that the ongoing negotiations with the Palestinians are serious, and that the second stage of the Declaration of Principles [DOP] will be implemented. Nonetheless, he repeated several times that the dates set for the start of the implementation of the DOP are not final.

This statement returns the Palestinians to square one. The Palestinians have long suffered from delays. The implementation of the second stage of the DOP was supposed to have started in July 1994, as provided for in the DOP signed in September 1993.

Observers believe that the procrastination that has marked the Israelis' conduct with the approach of the deadline for implementing the second stage of the DOP, which provides for expanding self-rule to the rest of the West Bank and holding Palestinian elections, means that the Israelis are not serious about the expansion of self- rule. The fresh statement made by Rabin in Christopher's presence shows that the Israelis do not intend to respect the 1 July deadline for agreement on elections and self-rule expansion. Rabin said that the Israelis are committed to the DOP. However, he qualified this statement by saying that they do not intend to do so with a stopwatch in their hand.

Rabin added: We are committed to redeploying Israeli troops in two phases. The first phase of the redeployment will enable the Palestinians to hold elections as they deem fit. The second phase will include an additional troop redeployment. But the problem is how to work out an agreement, not only with regard to the first phase, but also to the second one, as well.

Rabin went on to say: For us, the achievement of an agreement on the first phase is enough to bring us closer to a date for the elections. Later, we can negotiate the resumption of the troop redeployment. But so far, the Palestinians have been seeking a blanket agreement on the two phases. This could cause delays. Nonetheless, we will do our best in this regard. There is no need for guarantees for an agreement between us and the Palestinians. I believe that the Palestinians, just like us, are committed to making progress and to implementing the DOP."

Rabin noted that during the negotiations on the first stage of the self-rule, which went into effect in Gaza and Jericho in May 1994, the negotiators needed eight months instead of three, as scheduled, to work out an agreement. However, he added, we have reached an agreement and put it into effect. This means that the 1 July deadline could drag on for more than eight months.

Yemen

'Arrest Campaign' Against Oppositionists Denied

MM1606101495 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 15 Jun 95 p 7

[Report by Iqbal 'Ali 'Abdallah: "Yemeni Denial of Arrest Campaign Against Opposition in Aden"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Aden — Official security sources in Aden have denied that "the security authorities launched an arrest campaign against members of the opposition and people returning from abroad on the charge of affiliation with absconding secessionist elements." They added that "these claims by secessionists who had fled abroad reflect their failure to make any internal gains despite the funds they send to their followers at home."

They stressed that "these elements are known and have been warned about the seriousness of contacting secessionists abroad."

The security sources told AL-HAYAH yesterday that "those who were summoned the week before last — some students, journalists, and members of the [Yemeni] Socialist Party — were released within a week and none of them was subjected to any human rights violations. The security authorities just questioned them in connection with their relationship and contacts with the absconding secessionist elements abroad including some of those wanted for committing abominable crimes against the public and the homeland by preparing for war and secession in the summer of last year."

The sources revealed that "some university students in Aden confessed during the interrogation before their release that they had received funds and leaflets from the secessionists abroad for the purpose of creating confusion and anarchy by putting up leaflets issued by the so-called 'National Opposition Front' (MAWJ) urging sabotage of economic and tourist installations, strikes, and marches." [passage omitted]

They also said that "some travelers contacted the security authorities after their return and handed in the leaflets, refusing to do anything against the homeland." [passage omitted]

Details of 'Military Rebellion' Cited

MM1606101895 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Jun 95 p 3

[Report by 'Adnan Husayn: Despite Continued Iraqi Denial of Incidents, Reports Confirm Rebellion in Abu Gharib"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] London, Agencies — While Iraqi Government sources have renewed their denial of reports that a military rebellion took place the day before yesterday in the Abu Gharib area, the western district of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, AFP, which was the first source of these reports, reemphasized that the rebellion did take place. It cited what it termed "reliable sources in Iraq" as saying that government forces suppressed the rebellion yesterday and that the rebellion's leader, Staff Brigadier Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, committed suicide. [passage omitted]

Iraqi opposition sources have said that the Abu Gharib incidents started with an attempt by civilians from Abu Gharib itself, who belong to the Zawba' and Tamim tribes, to attack Abu Gharib prison to release relatives arrested last month following the al-Anbar Governorate incidents. The sources added that military units from the Abu Gharib camp and around it, led by officers from the same tribes, moved in later to support the civilians demanding their relatives' release. The situation subsequently developed into clashes between these units and the attacking government units.

The sources confirmed that the incidents began late Tuesday night and ended in the afternoon of Wednesday with the government forces' victory over the rebel units.

A military figure, who broke away from the Iraqi Government in 1991 and participated in the people's uprising that followed Iraq's defeat in the war to liberate Kuwait, said that Brig. Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, who is said to have led the recent move and who was killed or committed suicide during the attempt, was commander of the 10th Armored Brigade stationed in al-Rashid camp, east of Baghdad. One battalion of this brigade is based in Abu Gharib. The figure in question told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT over the telephone that the 10th Armored Brigade is responsible — alongside the Republican Guard Brigade — for Baghdad's security.

AFP: Scattered Dissent Said No Threat to Saddam

NC1506130695 Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 15 Jun 95

[By Taieb Mahjoub]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dubai, United Arab Emirates, June 15 (AFP) — Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, whose forces crushed a mutiny on Thursday [14 June], faces growing dissent within the army but no immediate or coordinated threat to his rule, experts said.

"The Iraqi army is technically incapable of undertaking large-scale action that could topple the regime," a military expert in the region said.

"The different army units cannot coordinate their actions because they are very localized and isolated. For now they are not a direct threat to the regime," according to the expert, who requested anonymity.

An armored unit led by the powerful al-Dulaymi tribe mounted a rebellion in Abu Gharib, 20 kilometers (12 miles) west of Baghdad on Wednesday, but Saddam Husayn's forces crushed it the next day, witnesses and reliable sources said.

The uprising, the biggest since the Shiite and Kurdish revolts that followed Iraq's defeat in the 1991 Gulf war, "reveals a deep dislocation within the Iraqi military," an opposition leader told AFP.

"It will be followed soon by other actions, all the more so as the Iraqi people are ready for an uprising," he added.

Wednesday's mutiny was led by General Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, who committed suicide as he watched Iraqi special forces decimate his July 14 Battalion, witnesses said.

General Turki, a former supporter of Saddam Husayn, led the mutiny to demand the release from Abu Gharib prison of nearly 850 people from al-Anbar Province, where the powerful Sunni Moslem al-Dulaymi tribe is concentrated.

They were arrested following riots sparked on May 18 by the execution of an officer of the tribe, Air Force General Muhammad Madhlum al-Dulaymi, who was arrested late last year for his reported role in an attempted coup.

Government forces have crushed around a dozen attempted military coups in the last four years, the opposition said.

And Baghdad has stepped up measures to ensure the loyalty of an army which, like most Iraqis, has felt the pressure of UN economic sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

Since most of its military machine was either destroyed during the 1991 Gulf war to free Kuwait or dismantled by UN experts afterward, the Iraqi Army has seen its forces cut by 60 percent to 400,000 soldiers, Western experts said.

The rest have returned to civilian life.

Iraqi soldiers appear "demoralized" as they feel the effects of the embargo such as a lack of spare parts, diplomats and other sources in the region said.

One diplomat said "soldiers were badly equipped" during their move toward the border with Kuwait last October, which observers feared could be a repeat of the 1990 invasion.

A long-time Western resident of Iraq said "those called to serve their country must pay for their own uniforms, and sometimes their transportation costs."

Such hardship is pushing new recruits to desert, despite severe penalties. Since 1994 the army has cut off the ears of deserters and branded their forehead.

Even senior officials have tried to desert. Saddam Husayn's personal doctor General Raji al-Tikriti was executed last year when he tried to cross the border into Jordan.

Ba'th Party Official Notes Situation 'Under Control'

JN1506105895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 0945 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Interview with Jamal al-Bustami, secretary general of the Palestinian Ba'th Party, "who has just arrived from Baghdad," by radio correspondent Sha'ul Menashe; from the "With the Midday Events" program — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Menashe] Jamal al-Bustami, secretary general of the Palestinian Ba'th Party, good morning.

[Al-Bustami] Good morning.

[Menashe] You have just returned from Baghdad. The mutiny of the al-Dulaymi tribes took place approximately one month ago. The question is: Have you noticed any manifestations or signs in Iraq, or in Baghdad in particular, of this incident or mutiny?

[Al-Bustami] Regarding the mutiny you have mentioned, it was not a mutiny in the full sense of the word — it was dissatisfaction with the strangling economic crisis in Iraq. However, the so-called mutiny was controlled within a few days and it has not left any repercussions at all. The party militias placed the situation under full control.

[Menashe] While you were in Baghdad, were you aware of this mutiny?

[Al-Bustami] We learned about it, and the situation was under control. When we returned from Iraq we passed through the al-Anbar Governorate and we have not seen any sign of this mutiny. [passage omitted]

Official Rejects 'Baseless' Abu Gharib Reports

MM1606093195 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Jun 95 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Iraqi Source in Amman Denies Abu Gharib Incidents"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT — 'Adil Ibrahim, press counselor at the Iraqi Embassy in Amman, has denied tc AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT over the telephone the reports of an attempted rebellion in Iraq. He cited a statement issued in Baghdad, which said that "the reports in this connection are not only baseless, but also distorted and deceitful."

The statement, which was issued by a media source, said that "we would not have reacted had it not been for the fact that several radios engaged in repeating such talk."

Various Clan Leaders Vow Allegiance to Saddam

Al-Ta'mim, Dhi Qar, Maysan Tribes

JN1506170895 Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[From the "Evening Newspaper" feature]

[FBIS Translated Text] The heads of tribes in the District of al-Hawijah, the subdistricts of al-Riyad and al-'Abbasi, and the village of al-Zab in the al-Ta'mim Governorate have renewed a pledge to President leader Saddam Husayn to remain brandished swords in defense of great Iraq.

In a gathering held at the district's central hall, they emphasized their constant readiness to double efforts and increase agricultural production in order to break the unjust blockade imposed on our militant country. The gathering was attended by al-Ta'mim Governor Hisham Sabah al-Fakhri.

In another development, the heads of tribes, people's councils, and village chiefs in the Dhi Qar Governorate have expressed pride in the courageous leadership of President leader Saddam Husayn in defense of great Iraq.

In a gathering held in the city of al-Nasiriyah today, they emphasized their constant readiness to sacrifice and employ their potential in order to foil the schemes of the enemies which aim to undermine the sovereignty and unity of proud Iraq. The gathering was attended by Dhi Qar Governor Salah 'Abbud Mahmud.

In a similar development, the heads of tribes in the Maysan Governorate have renewed the pledge to President leader Saddam Husayn to rally around his wise leadership in defense of both great Iraq and the achievements of the glorious 17-30 July revolution.

In a gathering held at the guest house of President leader Saddam Husayn in the city of al-'Amarah, they emphasized their constant readiness for sacrifices and for increasing production in order to foil the schemes of the enemies and break the unjust blockade imposed on our steadfast people. The gathering was attended by Maysan Governor Ahmad 'Abdallah Salih and the comrades secretary and members of the Maysan branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Salah Al-Din Tribesmen

JN1506150795 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 7 Jun 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] The al-Suwayfat tribesmen in Bayji District, Salah al-Din Governorate, have renewed their pledge to leader President Saddam Husayn to remain loyal soldiers in defense of great Iraq. At a massive rally in Bayji District, the tribesmen reiterated their high readiness to make any sacrifice and to increase and improve production in order to defeat the blockade.

The rally was attended by comrade Muhammad Yunus al-Ahmad, member of the Iraq Command and officer in charge of party organizations in Salah al-Din and al-Anbar Governorates; Salah al-Din Governor Ghazi Ahmad al-Khattab; and the comrade secretary of the party branch leadership in Salah al-Din.

Opposition Sources React to Baghdad Uprising

SAIRI Leader on 'Extensive' Battles

NC1506193095 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1745 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Telephone interview with Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, SAIRI, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "News and Reports" program — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Your Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, the French news agency has reported a mutiny in the Iraqi Army in Abu-Gharib. It said the mutiny was led by officer Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, and that it continued for two days. Is this true?

[Al-Hakim] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God, lord of the universe, and peace be upon his Prophet Muhammad, his scion, and his companions. Naturally, I heard this news, and I continued to watch and follow the situation inside Iraq. A short time ago, I received a report from the brother mujahidin inside Iraq through radio contacts. They spoke about extensive battles in that region. They cited confirmed reports that the forces that rebelled against the regime shot down two regime helicopters, destroyed 20 tanks and personnel carriers, destroyed five helicopters on the ground, and killed a large number of the special Republican Guards, the special forces defending the regime. There are reports of general tension throughout Iraq, especially in Baghdad and the heavily-populated areas. Large numbers of Iraqi security troops carrying light weapons and machine guns are taking up positions to commit oppressive acts against any movement inside Baghdad. The reports also emphasize that units of the Republican Guards are deployed around Baghdad to take counter action if other forces try to support the rebels.

We would like to tell all the Iraqis, especially the sons of the al-Dulaymi tribe, that they must hold out on this position. Before them, their brothers in southern, northern, and central Iraq stood fast. Through this steadfastness, they can express the unity of the Iraqi people and deprive the regime of the card it was trying to play; namely, the card of sectarianism. All the sons of the Iraqi Army must know that any oppressive act against the Iraqi people is prohibited by religion and leads its perpetrators to hell. I, therefore, call on the Iraqi Army to stand on the side of the people, not the regime.

[Correspondent] Your Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, do you think that this recent mutiny is linked to the reported confrontation between the Iraqi Government and the al-Dulaymi tribe?

[Al-Hakim] This latest uprising, though within the framework of the al-Dulaymi tribe and its situation, has a much wider background; namely, the way the regime is treating the Iraqi people. The regime disdains people's sanctities and rights and tries to express its hatred and revenge against them. From the very beginning, therefore, we expected uprisings in other areas. It took place now in Abu Gharib and it may take place elsewhere in Iraq.

[Correspondent] What do you think the impact of these developments will be on the political situation and the Iraqi military establishment in particular?

[Al-Hakim] These are very important developments for two main reasons and dimensions. First, these regions, as is known, have a big influence on Iraqi Army circles, especially on the forces around Baghdad. This, therefore, is a major development in the position of the Iraqi Army toward the regime. Second, there is a large participation by the sons of this region. The general concept [for changing the government] was the method of military coups. But this development — the participation of the Iraqi people in the confrontation against the regime — means there will be cooperation between the people and the Army for the salvation of Iraq. We, therefore, hope that Iraq will, in the near future, God willing, see a development in favor of the Iraqi people and their unity, that Iraq will be for all its people, that all people will have equal rights and obligations, and that the feelings [of division], which the regime tried to sow among the Iraqi people, will disappear.

[Correspondent] Your Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, have regional parties had any reactions to these developments so far?

[Al-Hakim] So far, I have not heard that the regional parties have had any reactions. But I believe that the regional political circles are very interested in these developments.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Al-Hakim] I thank you for giving me this chance; may God grant you success.

SAIRI Official Confirms 'Fierce' Clashes

LD1506180895 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic
1445 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Damascus, 15 Jun (KUNA) — An Iraqi opposition figure has confirmed that clashes did occur during the last few days between pro-regime forces and Iraqi Army units that initiated a rebellion against the regime. Bayan Jabr, representative of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] in Syria, told KUNA: Our sources inside Iraq have confirmed that a fierce battle in which tanks, artillery, and short-range missiles were used did take place in the region between al-Fallujah and Abu-Gharib between the Republican Guard forces and units of the Iraqi Army. He said: Our sources have noted a great deal of confusion around the republican palace in Baghdad, and that some roads leading to the palace were closed to facilitate the movements of the Republican Guard military vehicles leaving to take part in the battle. On the other hand, Mr. Jabr stressed that assassinations continued in Ramadi where the situation was very tense. In a similar statement to KUNA, Iraqi opposition sources confirmed that an Iraqi military insurgency did take place in the region of Abu-Gharib, which is located 20 km north of Baghdad, led by Staff Brigadier Turki al-Dulaymi. He added that during the night of 13-14 June, al-Dulaymi moved with his forces on a military road linking Amman and Baghdad, passing by Abu-Gharib, and bordering helioports, radio and television transmitter stations, and radar and military engineering units.

The sources said there are many reasons for the rebellion, including the execution of a large number of officers particularly Air Brigadier Muhammad Mazlum al-Dulaymi, who led the abortive coup more than a month ago which caused a clash between the al-Dulaym tribe and the authority in al-Ramadai, as well as the killing of its Governor Awwad al-Bandar and the arrest of more than 850 men of the tribe. The sources added that the reasons behind the movement of the al-Dulaym tribe include freeing the detainees at Abu-Gharib prison and the fact that the regime accused the sons of the al-Dulaym, Shammar, Zuba', and Kubaysat tribes — which constitute the overwhelming majority of the Iraqi military personnel — of treason. Regarding the mutiny, the sources said that Brig. al-Dulaymi managed to bring an air base located along the highway leading to Baghdad under control and seized the radio and TV transmitters and then reinforced his troops inside the bases in the area. The sources added that the regime sent two armored battalions under the command of 'Uday and Qusay, the sons of the head of the regime [Saddam Husayn], and the mutiny was encircled. But orders were issued to the two battlions not to shell the establishments, buildings, and bases where Brig. al-Dulaymi and his troops were deployed in order to convince the people that the statement of the Information Ministry was true — the statement that denied that any clash had taken place and said that matters were calm in Baghdad.

Sources said that according to news reaching them this morning, Brig. al-Dulaymi was still entrenched inside the camps and was beseiged by battalions loyal to the government. At the same time, unconfirmed reports said that he might have committed suicide in order to avoid falling into the hands of the authorities and being tortured to extract information about his rebellion.

Sources explained that Brig. al-Dulaymi's plan was to attack Baghdad with helicopters, gain control of the camps of the air bases in the Abu-Gharib area, knock out the radio and television transmitters, move elements of the al-Dulaym tribe and clans allied with it to blockade Baghdad from the south, and agree with senior commands in the Armed Forces and Republican Guard brigades to attack the palace.

The sources added that tension prevailed in Iraqi cities yesterday evening and this morning. In al-Nasiriyah, military units clashed with civilian elements who attacked the homes of the Sa'dun family, known for its loyalty to the authorities, and one of whose members, Al-Ramadi Governor Awwad al-Bandar, was recently killed by the al-Dulaym tribes.

INC Official: 'Heavy Losses' Inflicted

LD1506183795 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic
1742 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] London, 15 Jun (KUNA) — A prominent member of the opposition Iraqi National Congress said here today that the Iraqi battalion that revolted inflicted heavy losses on the forces loyal to Saddam Husayn in violent military confrontations that are continuing in the suburbs of Baghdad for the second consecutive day.

Dr. Hamad al-Bayati, member of the congress's Executive Committee, said in a statement to KUNA that the units in revolt shot down two helicopters and destroyed 20 tanks, in addition to killing 150 members of the Republican Guard and the Special Forces.

He pointed out that the Iraqi Special Forces and the Republican Guard are on full alert.

The fighting erupted yesterday in the Abu-Gharib area, 28 km west of Baghdad. Al-Bayati said that smoke was seen rising from the area's prison.

Al-Bayati, who is also the representative of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], mentioned that Qusayy, Saddam's youngest son in charge of the Special Forces, and Defense Minister 'Ali Hasan al-Majid were directing the counterattack against the units in revolt.

He also talked about armed patrols roaming the streets of Baghdad, while military planes and helicopters flew in the capital's air space.

Al-Dulaymi Member: Revolt 'First Warning'

NC1506164495 Paris AFP in English
1614 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Amman, June 15 (AFP) — The powerful al-Dulaymi clan in Iraq said Thursday [15 June] it had launched an "intifadah" or uprising against President Saddam Husayn as forces loyal to the Iraqi leader crushed an army mutiny west of Baghdad.

A senior member of the clan told AFP the revolt in Abu Gharib, 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Baghdad, "was just a first warning."

Reliable sources said an armored unit staged a rebellion Wednesday, but Saddam Husayn's forces crushed it the next day.

They said it was led by General Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, who committed suicide as he watched Iraqi special forces decimate his July 14 batallion.

"There will be other riots and insurrections leading to a total uprising," said the al-Dulaymi clan member Thursday.

He said "many members of (my) family are officers and soldiers" in the army.

"The army belongs to the Iraqi people and not to the regime and the day will come when the army, helped by the people, will end the tyranny," he added. [passage omitted]

Opposition Radio on Rebels' Actions

NC1506151195 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] According to reports, clashes have taken place between military units led by Staff Brigadier General Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi, commander of the 14 July Battalion, which is stationed in Abu Gharib, 20 km from Baghdad. [sentence as heard]

News agencies reported that fierce battles with heavy weapons have occurred there.

Although Saddam's regime has denied these reports, thick clouds of smoke are rising from the Abu Gharib area.

The rebellious Army units attacked a private helicopter launch pad that belongs to the tyrant Saddam. They also attacked a broadcasting station in Abu Gharib and are now in control of it.

According to the reports, many military units have joined Brig. Gen al-Dulaymi.

Although the terrorist Baghdad regime is trying to downplay the importance of this new military development by disseminating propaganda aimed at containing the incident, informed sources state that the movement of these heroic revolutionaries in our brave army is spreading to nearby areas around Baghdad.

Radio: Station Ceases Transmission

NC1506144395 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] THE FINANCIAL TIMES (?has confirmed) reports of clashes between Saddam Husayn's regime forces and [words indistinct]. It said members of Iraq's al-Dulaymi tribe joined the movement yesterday [words indistinct] a transmission station. The paper said transmission stopped for a while as a result of the attack. It said the transmitter is 20 km (?from Baghdad). [passage omitted]

A senior Jordanian Government official today confirmed reports [words indistinct] about disturbances in Iraq and said the unrest [words indistinct] Baghdad broke out [words indistinct] June.

Commentary Urges More 'Confrontation'

NC1506161995 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Has Saddam's regime lost its basic foundation and drawn close to the edge of the abyss? Have the repercussions of the al-Ramadi uprising reached Baghdad's northern outskirts? Has the countdown begun for the rule of the tyrant Saddam Husayn?

Anything has become possible after the rebellion of the 14 July Battalion under the command of Major General [title as heard] Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi. It can be easily said that Saddam's regime has lost its basic place in the party, the sect, the military establishment, and even among the clans. Only the ruling family circle remains loyal; and this family is evidently in a shaky state.

The echoes and repercussions of the al-Ramadi uprising produce new events daily that demonstrate how precarious the regime's status has become and how great the gap now is between it and ordinary Iraqis.

This intifadah has had strong repercussions echoing as far as Baghdad's northern districts. The rebellion of the battalion commanded by Maj. Gen. Turki Isma'il al-Dulaymi has serious implications on the authority of the tyrant Saddam and his artificial influence in the Army, the party, the clans, and the sect.

The 14 July Battalion has seized large parts of the Abu Gharib area and placed the technical equipment of the regime's broadcasting stations under its control. It used its airpower to attack private airstrips belonging to the tyrant Saddam. Reports state that clashes are continuing between this battalion and the tyrant Saddam's Republican Guard forces.

Maj. Gen al-Dulaymi's determination to remain steadfast and fight and his success in exploiting the military confrontation with the regime to dictate conditions and demands undesirable to the regime mean only one thing: The regime has lost everything and it is drawing its last breath. The countdown has begun for the fate that will befall it.

All Iraqis are asked to escalate the confrontation with the regime and assist any military or jihad activity against this corrupt and dissolute regime.

God is great. Victory to our wronged, struggler nation.

Katyushas Rockets Land in Western Galilee

TA1506114395 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Report by Qobi Mandel]

[FBIS Translated Text] A short while ago, several Katyusha rockets hit the Western Galilee. We were told by the Israel Police that, luckily, no one was hurt and no damage was caused. Residents of the Western Galilee, including the city of Nahariyya, are in shelters now. The Nahariyya Hospital was placed on alert, and the children held in the hospital were taken to underground installations. Police and army experts rushed to the sites where the Katyushas fell.

4 Injured; Shahal Vows Retaliation

TA1506154395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Four Israeli civilians have been wounded, all lightly, in a Katyusha rocket attack on the western Galilee. Two were hurt by shrapnel, the other suffer from shock as a result of the bombardment in which one of the rockets landed close to their home. There are also reports of damage in the area.

Altogether, three salvos were launched at the western Galilee from Lebanon, while other rockets landed in the security zone. The latest report we have is of life returning to normal and this afternoon tension easing off. [passage omitted]

Just after the bombardment on the western Galilee, our reporter Alan Ben-'Ami spoke to two Israeli cabinet ministers to get their reaction — Police Minister Moshe Shahal and Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer:

[Begin recording] [Shahal] We do not accept this kind of terror acts by the Hizballah. Our security forces and the SLA [South Lebanese Army] will certainly give an answer for what happened. We warn all of the factions of the Hizballah to be aware that there will be a retaliation and an answer by our forces. [passage omitted]

[Ben-Eli'ezer] Well, as you could follow, I think that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has taken as a revenge some actions. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rabin: Peace With Syria Will End Attacks

TA1506162395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that a political solution with Syria and Lebanon will bring about an end to the attacks coming from south Lebanon.

Mr. Rabin said that the Katyusha rockets fired by Hizballah are part of the ugly wave of Iran-sponsored Islamic terrorism.

Our correspondent in Washington Arye Golan reports that the prime minister made these remarks during a satellite broadcast to a convention of the Israel Policy Forum, a Jewish organization that supports the government's policy.

Netanyahu Denounces Rabin Remarks on Attacks

TA1606120095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu has denounced Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement that only a political arrangement with Syria will put an end to the Katyusha attacks from Lebanon. According to him, Mr. Rabin's statement is a demonstration of helplessness which undermines Israel's deterrent power and calls for more attacks on the northern settlements.

Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar reports that the Likud leader called on the prime minister not to take advantage of the terrorist aggression to promote the withdrawals he is planning in the Golan and in Lebanon. The Golan Settlement Committee issued a similar communique.

Levin: Hizballah Violating Understandings

TA1606111395 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Major General 'Amiram Levin, commander of the Northern Command, this morning toured the site of yesterday's Katyusha attack in the western Galilee. Levin told residents in the area that Hizballah's attacks grossly violate the understandings reached in Operation Accountability. Our correspondent Menahem Horowitz reports from the north:

[Begin recording] [Horowitz] This morning Gen. Levin toured the site of the Katyusha attack in the western Galilee. We will have to solve the problem of the Katyushas and to make clear to Hizballah that the rules they set are intolerable and that their side will suffer more, he said.

[Levin] It must be made clear to them, both in words and deeds, that attacks on our population will not be tolerated and that if they do not stop them of their own volition we will have to do it it — and we will.

The near future will still be tense. Hizballah is trying to disintegrate the South Lebanese Army and the security zone, and to strengthen their status and power in Lebanon. This is what we will have to deal with. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Syrian Role in Attacks Seen as 'Marginal'

TA1606114895 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Jun 95 p 2

[Commentary by Alex Fishman: "Operational Planning"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Hizballah fired Katyushas at the Galilee five times in the first half of 1995, while in all of 1994 it did so four times "only." These are not dry statistical facts. It is a trend showing that Hizballah is becoming more trigger happy when it comes to attacks on Israeli territory.

After the SLA [South Lebanese Army] artillery shelling on the village of Shaqra two days ago, Hizballah's mouthpieces warned against a possible Israeli retaliation, but hardly anybody in the defense establishment's top echelon believes that the shelling on Shaqra is the excuse for the Katyusha attacks. A similar artillery shelling a year ago did not prompt a Katyusha attack. This time we are talking about operational planning that is waiting, as it were, for an excuse. One time they attack Qiryat Shemona, and another time they attack Nahariyya. This is not spontaneous. The Northern Command has for some time been of the opinion that Hizballah's failure to show achievements in "routine" operations — attacks on military outposts, infiltrations of the security zone, bombings, and ambushes — will make it revert exclusively to the katyushas since these create the desired media effect.

Almost two years after Operation Accountability, a withdrawal on the part of Hizballah from the understandings reached then is clearly discernible. If the political process with Syria has any impact on Hizballah's activities in south Lebanon it is marginal at most. Hizballah's operational considerations have to do more with its internal politics and Lebanese domestic politics. Therefore, if there is no Israeli response now, diplomatic or otherwise, the incidence of katyusha attacks on the Galilee will only grow in the next weeks and months.

Rabin Comments on Syria, PLO, U.S. Aid

TA1506182895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Prime Minister Rabin says that since the PLO signed the agreement with Israel, it has stopped carrying out terror acts and is now exerting efforts to prevent Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad from carrying out such attacks.

Referring to the contacts with Syria, the prime minister said that the chiefs of staff talks late this month will be an important step toward laying the foundation for a peace agreement with Syria and Lebanon.

Mr. Rabin called on the United States not to harm the foreign aid to Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO, because any such cut would be tantamount to giving terrorism a prize.

Our correspondent in Washington Arye Golan reports that the prime minister made these remarks during a satellite broadcast to a convention of the Israel Policy Forum, a Jewish organization that supports the government's policy.

Likud Files No-Confidence Motion After Shahal Statement

TA1506161795 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Likud faction in the Knesset has decided to submit a motion of no-confidence in the government following Police Minister Shahal's statement that there are no appropriate security arrangements to protect borderline settlements on the eve of the redeployment in Judaea and Samaria. The Likud says the first duty of the state is to protect its citizens, and any government not doing this was not worthy of confidence.

Police Inspector General Asaf Hefetz says the government has frozen the police deployment plan for border settlements. If the freeze continued, there would be a need for other solutions to the security problems arising after the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] redeployment, Hefetz said.

Shots at Army Car; Troops on 'High Alert' in Strip

TA1606145295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In the vicinity of the Erez industrial zone gas station in the northern Gaza Strip, shots were fired today at the car of an Israeli officer serving as deputy commander of the local joint Israeli-Palestinian office. No one was hurt. Our correspondent Nisim Qeynan reports that several bullets hit the car.

IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops in the area have been on high alert since the Rafah incident [in which three Palestinians were killed on 14 June] in anticipation of terrorist attacks. The IDF is checking the suspicion that the shots at the Israeli officer's car were shot by Palestinian patrolmen.

New Regulations on Entrance of Gaza Workers

*TA1406131695 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
14 Jun 95 p 2*

[Report by Eli Bohadana]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] prevented the entrance of approximately 4,000 Palestinian workers from Gaza into Israel. These Palestinians are single men under 30 who received work permits approximately two weeks ago.

It turns out that the IDF has changed its regulations regarding the entrance of workers into Israel; whereas in the past single men over 30 were entitled to work in Israel, henceforth only married men over 30 will be allowed in.

Muhammad Abu-Hilal, chairman of the Palestinian Trade Union in Gaza, claims that the new regulation is a blatant violation of the agreement between the Palestinian Authority and Israel.

Mail of PA Residents Said Screened by Censors

*TA1406143295 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
14 Jun 95 pp A1, A2*

[Report by political correspondent Aluf Ben]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Private letters sent abroad by residents of the Palestinian Authority [PA] in the Gaza Strip and Jericho are regularly checked by the Defense Ministry's Postal and Telegraphic Censors. Thousands of letters are screened every month to monitor the mood in the Gaza Strip and the attitude of Gazans toward the PA, Israel, and the peace process as reflected in letters to friends and relatives. Letters of Palestinians in the West Bank and of Israeli Arabs are also checked regularly.

The Postal and Telegraphic Censors issue periodic reports about the moods of Palestinians and Israeli Arabs, which include "spicy" quotes from private letters describing the feelings of the population. The reports are sent regularly to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and the senior staff of the Prime Minister's Office, the defense establishment, and the Foreign Ministry.

The Cairo agreement on the establishment of the PA stipulates that the Gaza Strip's and Jericho's international postal relations would be conducted by Israel's Postal Authority. The Palestinians send their mail bags to Israel, and these are sent abroad after censorship. Mail arriving from abroad is treated similarly.

Not just international mail, but also intercity mail is checked, in Israeli-controlled areas in the West Bank and in Israel itself.

Foreign Ministry sources yesterday told HA'ARETZ that Israel is entitled to check this mail by virtue of its responsibility for the PA's external security and foreign relations. According to these sources, owing to the fact that the mail is sent abroad from the PA and is checked for security purposes, there is no doubt about the legality of the Postal and Telegraphic Censors' actions in this case. [passage omitted]

Armored Vehicle Engines Said Sold to Iran

*NC1606092795 Paris AFP in English
0902 GMT 16 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Jerusalem, June 16 (AFP)—An Israeli arms dealer has been charged with selling engines for 50 armoured vehicles to a South Korean intermediary who then exported them to Iran, legal officials said Friday [16 June].

Eliyahu Cohen, head of the IVS firm, was charged this week by a court in Netanya, north of Tel Aviv, with forgery and violation of laws controlling arms exports.

According to the charges, Cohen was given a permit in October 1991 to export to the United States 140 engines for armoured vehicles.

Fifty had been bought from the Israeli army and 90 in Germany which were then completely overhauled in Israel.

A year later Cohen sold 50 engines to an unidentified South Korean go-between who put them on a Swedish boat to Iran from the French port of Le Havre.

Cohen is believed to have known that the engines were to be exported to Iran, which is considered as a threat and enemy of the Jewish state, the officials added.

Engineer Shubaylat Attacks Regime, Normalization

JN1406060895 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 14 Jun 95 p 5

[All elipses and quotation marks as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] Layth Shubaylat, president of the Jordanian Engineers Association, insists on seizing every opportunity to attack the peace agreements, particularly the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty. After the Government cancelled the conference to confront normalization — which was slated to convene on 26 May and in which Shubaylat was an active participant — Shubaylat grasped the chance to speak his mind on this subject. He attacked the treaty in a daring lecture, which generated large-scale reactions and reservations from various political quarters. His lecture was entitled "the Expansionist Zionism and the Jordanian Immune Deficiency." The written text of the lecture, which he recently delivered at the Arab Forum, was extremely harsh. But what he said when he departed from the text was even more harsh.

Before referring to the text of the lecture, it is worth noting that Shubaylat surprised the audience by asking them to observe a one-minute silence and to read the opening verses of the Koran for the soul of martyr Mahmud Khalifah [a Jordanian citizen killed in battle with Jordanian security men in Amman].

Following is the text of the lecture. We had to delete certain sentences, which, if published, could make us lose our heads:

In these dark climates, which revealed to everyone the soundness of our position about the absence of democracy, we come here to lecture, uncertain if this lecture will be banned or sabotaged by the government. The "deep-rooted" Jordanian "democracy" banned by force a seminar in Irbid entitled "15 May — Usurpation Anniversary or Independence Celebration," and another seminar in Amman the next day in support of Jerusalem. It also banned the "Popular Conference to Protect the Homeland and Confront Normalization" at the last minute after it had earlier agreed, under pressure, to hold it. It banned this conference despite the fact that the preparatory committee cooperated as much as it could with the government, limited the number of delegates to a symbolic figure instead of thousands, agreed to change the venue from the Professional Associations Complex, and so forth.

We were also shocked by the government recently when it took the country to a new advanced stage of the "distinguished Jordanian democracy" when scores of security men, armed to the teeth, were sent to liquidate an advocate of free speech, martyr Mahmud Khalifah al-'Awamilah, and injure his brother Bashshar. It terrorized the residents of an entire neighborhood, and then the entire country, and it did not bother to issue an official statement on the incident despite the fact that five days have passed since then.

In such a climate we meet to talk about one of the new taboos: the Zionist entity. Before starting my lecture, I must pay tribute to, and urge every one who respects the humanity of man and his right to speak out and express his views to read with me the opening verses of the Koran for the soul of the martyr of free speech, Mahmud Khalifah al-'Awamilah. I also extend my condolences and thanks to his family and the people of his home town for the sacrifice they have offered. I demand the formation of a higher judicial inquiry to determine who is responsible and bring them to justice.

I begin my lecture on the road to freedom of speech by saying in the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

I do not know more about Zionism and its racist and aggressive nature than any of those present here. I am also confident that all those who have come to this meeting do not expect to hear some new revelations about Zionism. Our concern today is to refute Arab allegations that the Zionist designs have been contained and to show how everything is being done to serve the Zionist designs and against the Arab people and nation. There might be nothing new in what we say. But, what is important is to raise our voice to call a spade a spade after the Executive Branch has dared to announce principles that are completely new to the people and that have placed them in a state of shock from which they have not yet recovered.

Yesterday, 5 June, coincided with the anniversary of the revelation of the Torah according to the Jewish Calendar. The Jews intentionally chose this date for a Jordanian-German-Israeli summit and chose as its venue the al-Baqurah area which while reportedly under Jordanian sovereignty is a Jewish farm. The officials neither felt any pangs of conscience at what this date and venue meant nor were they moved by the Arabs and Muslims' memory of the 5 June date. They were confident that they had humiliated the people to such a degree that will not make them act against this humiliation. However, the days to come will show how wrong they were. Yesterday's ceremony was to lay the foundation of the new Zionist settlement onslaught while the Arab rulers continue to announce that Zionism has been contained through the submission agreements that were signed......

With respect to Jordan, the most serious aspect of the Zionist scheme at this stage is that it is being implemented with the cooperation of the Jordanian Government...... and seeks to dampen the Jordanians resistance to this overt and impudent Jewish invasion. Since leaders should not lie to their followers, we feel dutybound to explain things as clearly and explicitly as they are.

The people are now catching their breath, not believing the unabashed attempts to curry the favor of all the world Zionist fora, to be in their good graces, and to ask them for what we never asked an Arab brother. From this premise, Jordan and its regime are passing through the most perilous stage of their history; a lack of the sense of direction, a reversal of objectives......, the turning of one's back to the Arabs because they are now viewed as foreigners, throwing oneself into the lap of the Zionists....., severing kinship ties with the Arabs and trying to revive fictitious kinship ties with the Jews who are not related to any of us......., and besieging Iraq and its people in the fiercest manner wished by the unjust United Nations while .....all the weight to end the boycott imposed on the enemy.

The government before the last went mad when a slogan on the need to lift Jordan's official blockade on Iraq was raised and when forty deputies signed a draft resolution banning the boycott of any Arab country. At that time, the government did its utmost to undermine the draft resolution, claiming that it would harm the interests of Jordan and the Jordanians. Today, the government is using all its weight to prevent any protection of the Jordanian Arab society, its land, and its economy by urging the parliament to cancel laws on the boycott of the Zionist enemy. It is not only normalization, but also Judaization and Zionization through which the land, the people, and the future will be placed under the control of the enemies. It is the government which is using all its weight to cancel these laws. At the same time, the government dare not ask the Zionists to abandon their expansionist, racist Zionist doctrine or to change their racist ordinary and special laws, of which Israeli Professor Yisra'el Shahaq said: "It is not only the Palestinians, who are deprived of the right to use land. Even those who serve in the Israeli army, police, and Shabak are deprived of that right. The racist policies pursued by the Jewish National Fund which is responsible for these lands also bans non-Jews from leasing or using them in any way. I believe that this institutionalized racism is more important than stealing land from Palestinians. Many countries steal land in an organized way. For example, the United States has stolen the land of the Red Indians and most of these lands have become state property but remained attainable to any U.S. citizen." If Jews had been banned from hiring U.S. state-owned lands, an uproar would have been raised over the anti-Semitism laws. Unless we understand the racist nature of the Zionist movement or the State of Israel, as well as the racist roots in the Jewish religious law, Halakah, we will not be able to understand and change our situation.

The Arab is banned from buying his usurped house and land in the "friendly" enemy state. Moreover, Zionist laws become closer to the Halakah, which says that killing an Arab cannot be viewed as a crime. After the 1967 war and after the Zionists scored more victories, the racist religious logic became stronger because Jews interpreted these victories as a materialization of the previous religious prophecies. As a result, calls for the supremacy of the religious laws increased, and the notion that the Arabs who live on the "land of Israel" were criminals prevailed. The Torah says: "You must get rid of all those who live on your land." Land, according to the Torah, stretches beyond Palestine and reaches Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq on the east, let alone the west.

All Zionists believe in this doctrine, and any differences are not between racists and humanists but between a reformist racist such as Netanyahu, the Likud Party, and the religious parties, which want a purely Jewish state on all the "land of Israel," including Jordan, and between a racist secularist that does not accept less than complete control of the land of "Greater Israel" politically and economically as a fulfillment of the promise their alleged god has made.

These Zionists, whether they are reformists, and they are the majority, or secularists are daily being received in Jordan without any reservations and are given red carpet treatment. No Arab, Muslim, or world leader has been better received. They come and go in unofficial and casual visits and sometimes speak on behalf of the king without embarrassment or affectation. The government is not angered by the successive statements that Jordan is part of Greater Israel and does not seek an apology or an explanation. Netanyahu, the leader of the opposition in Israel and who is not far from power, was received as a leader.....although he announced that Jordan is part of Israel. Had this Netanyahu been an Arab opposition leader, he would not have been allowed to even enter Jordan. Had he been a foreign opposition leader, he would have been received by only Foreign Ministry protocol officials. Netanyahu impudently proposed to Prince Hasan the establishment of a martyrs monument in al-Karamah to commemorate Jordan's martyrs and Israel's dead; a joint monument for those who reside in Heaven and those usurpers who kill prophets and who are in Hell.

He called.....for the establishment of a joint authority for the Jordan Rift Valley. The United States Agency for International Development sent out invitations to international companies to start with the Jordan Rift Valley projects and clearly announced that the owner is a joint Israeli-U.S.-Jordanian committee. It asked the consultant firms to study the administrative status of the Rift Valley area. This means political participation in the administration of Jordanian land. This represents further sovereignty concessions.

Esteemed audience, matters are proceeding quickly and things are becoming unbearable. When Jordanians do not raise their voice in protest against the schemes to hand over the destiny of their country to the enemy, this is viewed as part of the process of concession. By not raising their voice in protest, they are giving up their land and its independence, and the future of their sons. The buffoons who acclaim treaties which the people have not had the opportunity to read make one want to vomit. All the engineers who attended the final session of a scientific seminar on water in Jordan said that they have not read either the agreements or the studies on which Jordan's stand is based. It seems that the Jordanians have become guests on their own land and guests have no right to criticize their hosts, or objects and property on a farm run by its owner who does as he wishes.

The Jordanians suddenly woke up to Clinton delivering his speech in Parliament announcing the substitute homeland and describing the assimilation of the immigrants into Jordanian society as a source of strength similar to the assimilation of the immigrants into American society. They woke up to a treaty that has legalized "the substitute homeland" by resettling people, ignoring the refugees right to repatriation, and opening their country wide to the Zionist schemes and removing the defenses it has erected against the incoming settlements invasion and the onslaught aimed at controlling its resources through privatization and joint projects. Instead of mobilizing its potentials and those of the intelligence departments to monitor the suspect enemy moves of purchasing and controlling land and confirming historical rights through touristic activities, the government mobilized the security forces and the intelligence departments against their brothers who refuse to hand over their homeland to the Zionists. There was a time when the regime did not need intelligence offices in villages and the countryside. But, now the most loyal people to the regime are being persecuted and harassed by the security organs and are subjected to theatrical trials whose script even the most mediocre cinema director would not approve.

Whenever we — who cling to the citizen's right to freedom and dignity and not having his security harmed — stood up in defense of the detainees, our tribes used to confront us with this question: What do you have to do with this issue that does no harm to us? We used to argue with them, trying to explain that human rights are indivisible and that what afflicts their brothers today will afflict them in the future until what happened in the past years. The Jordanian state organs mobilized "the Jordanians" as being the sons of this country and that they must defend it against "the Palestinian" invasion so that the depraved may thrive on this contradiction. Today, the Jordanians are witnessing the beginning of a real invasion of their land and resources and the beginning of a threat of being ousted from their land by the Jews. They turned to the state organs who mobilized in them the spirit of defending their land from thee Arab aggression, only to find it busy with the Zionist enemy who is coming to take control over the country's resources. They also found that they are no longer trusted in defending stability and that the enemy has replaced them in this regard. Moreover, individual interest in protecting personal gains has become favored over the interest of the homelands. Those who pant after a settlement protested that had they not done this, Jordan would have been divided among Arab neighbors as if the swallowing up of Jordan by the Arabs — if the lie proves to be true — would have been a disaster similar to that off its being swallowed up by the Zionists.

Jordan's disaster lies in the lack of immunity which the governments injected into the people over the years. When it was first established, the state had more foundations than it has today. Tribalism — strong as it is — was not the reason behind the tearing up of national unity and rank . Indeed, the gushing Muslim Arab sentiments of tribe members used to make them rise above all tribal and regional considerations and move toward Arab unity, in general, and the unity of Jordan and Palestine, in particular. The governments bear responsibility for dividing national unity over the years and for adopting the policy of divide and rule, which divided the kingdom into fees where the loyalty of some is bought at the expense of the whole and at the expense of the public interest.

Lavish spending became widespread and the list of figures — whose salaries and expenditures are destroying the coffers of a poor country which is not capable of supporting itself in the first place — is getting longer. Despite the fact that we have fallen into heavy debts, the lifestyle has not changed and the list of those parasites who live off the people's money did not get any shorter and their spending has not decreased. Housing allowances, trips abroad, and the entourage increase while an austerity economic readjustment program is applied to the people to the point of starvation.

As for today, trade has mixed with statesmanship, and the sharifs and their relatives have competed with citizens for political and military posts and for trade.

Moreover, allegiance was bought in exchange for privileges granted to certain people; allowances and gifts were imposed; and the fleet of cars registered in the name of ... has expanded to include thousands of cars which will be granted to those who are distinguished from their people and who are enjoying the evasion of customs duties despite the fact that the Parliament, at the start of this state, asked a prime minister to pay the customs duties for a car granted to him by the king.

The stability of the regime is achieved through the stability of the throne. This throne cannot be protected by Rabin, Peres, Netanyahu, or the United States. In addition to God's protection, this regime can only be protected by its cohesion with its people. Today, we are passing through the most serious phase in our history. In this phase, governments are fighting the people in their food and beliefs through Judaization and Zionization.

These people can possibly endure much and accept many things. However, mistaken is the one who thinks he can Judaize the people and Zionize their history and beliefs because this is impossible to achieve in a nation whose holy Koran reads: We have, without doubt, sent down the message; and we will assuredly guard it (from corruption). [Koranic verse]

Love for King Husayn and amity for Rabin do not meet in the conscience of the simplest Jordanians. Likewise, love for King Husayn does not converge with tightening the Jordanian siege of 20 million Iraqis whose leadership appeased the believers when it bombarded Tel Aviv.

Moreover, love for King Husayn does not meet with the Jordanians' disgust about the Israeli touristic activities and when they hear, with their own ears, the daily Jewish claims to alleged rights in Jordan.

Anyone who cheats the leadership by submitting information to the contrary will actually betray and deceive this leadership and will push it toward a dark tunnel. None of us knows how to move out of such a tunnel.

Esteemed audience: Unless allegiance to the homeland, to the sovereignty over its land, and to its independence is above any other allegiance, our country will perish and the usurpers will dissolve it. Allegiance to our homeland does not at all permit us to transfer the protection of our own security from our armies to a treaty of humiliation and capitulation. This treaty was worked out to first swallow Jordan and made things ready for a military Zionist interference, through occupation, in defense of both the treaty and those who signed it.

Buwayz Comments on Talks With Pelletreau

NC1506122695 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Jun 95

[News conference by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz with unidentified correspondents following his meeting with Robert Pelletreau, assistant U.S. secretary for Near Eastern affairs, in Beirut on 15 June—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] The visit by Robert Pelletreau, assistant U.S. secretary for Near Eastern affairs, to Lebanon follows U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's Middle East tour. He came to brief us on the results achieved in the peace process, especially with regard to the current Syrian-Israeli dialogue. I reiterate today that an understanding has been reached on some guidelines so as to form security arrangements. This means these arrangements are not yet ready to be implemented, they are not yet practical, but are general guidelines that will guide the talks to be resumed in Washington on the level of the chiefs of staff. When we talk of an understanding we are differentiating between it and an agreement, which presupposes some kind of legal cohesion that indicates greater progress. That is the positive aspect of what has been achieved so far.

It is wrong to concentrate too much on this issue because there are other issues concerning the withdrawal from the Golan, the timing and the timetable for the withdrawal, and the issue of relations. These issues remain unsettled. Therefore what has been done so far is positive. But more progress is required on the other issues.

That is what we heard yesterday from his excellency Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and today from his excellency Ambassador Pelletreau.

We also discussed bilateral ties. As we heard from Pelletreau, some symbolic and humble steps have been taken with regard to these ties, especially the issue of allowing the sale of travel tickets. Of course we do not believe these steps are fundamental ones; they are merely a sign. We hope these ties will be dealt with seriously and that all other pending issues will be tackled.

[Correspondent] Can we say that the time has come to resume the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations?

[Buwayz] It would be a grave mistake to think that Lebanon has refused to negotiate or dithered or even closed the door on negotiations. Lebanon has clearly said from the start, the Madrid conference, that it is ready and willing to discuss the implementation of Resolution 425, which demands Israel's withdrawal to behind the internationally recognized borders, and that it is ready to discuss this issue. But when it comes to Lebanon being required to sign a peace agreement under the aegis of Resolution 242, then this resolution involves all the Arabs; Lebanon will not proceed with it unilaterally without the other Arab countries. Hence, there is a basic difference here. Lebanon has been willing all along. The link came from Israel when it said it would not discuss Resolution 425 without a peace agreement. Had Israel been ready and willing to discuss Resolution 425, Lebanon would have started this discussion at the start of the peace process. The delay and postponement come only from the Israeli side. I believe this point must be explained, because the public, or some people anyway, cannot be allowed to believe that Lebanon is intentionally isolating itself and refusing to negotiate on liberating its territory. Lebanon has been ready to negotiate from the start. But Israel's linking Resolution 425 with Resolution 242 and the peace process means that the refusal is coming from the Israelis. We say very frankly today that progress on the Syrian-Israeli track and on the issue of the security agreements will confirm to us that Israel is serious and will make us confident that Israel is serious in dealing with the peace process. If the U.S. side extends an invitation to us as a sponsor of the peace process, then we will study it positively. Lebanon is always ready if there is Israeli willingness to discuss the Israeli withdrawal from the south. As for signing a peace agreement in implementation of Resolution 242, which is part of the Madrid peace process, Lebanon will deal with this issue in coordination and solidarity with the other Arab parties, especially Syria.

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct]

[Buwayz] I believe Pelletreau's visit is designed to explore the climate for studying the process.

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct]

[Buwayz] I have already said that we do not regard this step as anything more than a very humble one, a sign. It is not a step, just a sign. When another practical issue is raised, then we will discuss the repercussions.

Radio Reports End of Pelletreau's Visit

NC1606090195 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Robert Pelletreau, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, left the U.S. Embassy building in 'Awkar [in Beirut] late last night, thus ending his visit to Lebanon.

Previous reports indicated that Pelletreau would stay in Lebanon three days for talks with Lebanese officials and various Lebanese figures.

Hizballah Comments on Pelletreau Visit

NC1606070495 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The head of Hizballah's Political Bureau, Haj Husayn Khalil, has said Hizballah is an internal affair that Pelletreau has no right to discuss.

He added: We must know the meaning of terrorism. If the continuing resistance of the occupation is terrorism, then this is wrong. We must define the concept from which they proceed.

He said the United States is the world's biggest source of terrorism and that it seeks to commit enormous massacres against most nations.

IAF Attacks Hizballah Targets in Wake of Katyushas

TA1506184095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Israeli Air Force [IAF] helicopter gunships and planes attacked Hizballah terrorist targets in south Lebanon's central and western sectors.

The attack came in the wake of the Katyusha volleys directed against Israel.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reports that all our planes returned safely. The planes and helicopters attacked targets from where the Katyushas were fired at northern Israel today.

Eight Israelis were very lightly injured as a result of the Katyusha attack. They were all treated at the Nahariyya Hospital and sent home. Altogether, 15 houses received slight damage, and one house suffered heavy damage.

Israel Deploys Radar, Electronic Equipment

NC1606062995 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The enemy army yesterday introduced advanced radar and electronic watch equipment at the contact line—the first measure of its kind since the 1982 invasion.

Eyewitnesses in Hasbayya said an armored Israeli force transported the equipment along the [name indistinct] Gate-al-Dardarah-al-Hasbani Bridge-Hasbayya route. The equipment was installed on the 'Ayn Qinya Hill overlooking part of Western al-Biqa' and the liberated Hasbayya and Rashayya areas. Stringent security measures were taken all along the convoy's route and some side roads leading to the highway were closed.

Security sources said the introduction of the equipment aims to boost the militia's collapsed morale and is an attempt by the occupation forces to show that the usurping state will not abandon the militia.

PFLP-GC Denies Part in 'Ayn al-Hulwah Clashes

JN1506174295 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Statement by "a responsible source within the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, PFLP-GC, southern Lebanon Command"; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] The 14 June 1995 edition of the Lebanese newspaper AL-NAHAR published a press interview with Kamal Midhat, who claimed that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] took part in the recent bloody clashes that took place in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in southern Lebanon.

We within the PFLP-GC would like to assert that our people's masses are aware of the facts regarding the series of clashes taking place in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. They are aware of the perpetrators of these clashes, and of their suspicious connections, which are widely known to all, particularly since the 'Arafatist-Zionist alliance has allowed the performance of joint tasks against several patriotic figures. 'Arafat was repeatedly commended by terrorist Yitzhaq Rabin, the Zionist enemy's prime minister, for the efforts he has made to pursue and apprehend our people's fighters and strugglers.

To thwart the schemes of the parties that hold our people's lives in complete disregard, we would like to say that the PFLP-GC worked, along with nationalist and Islamic forces and 'Ayn al-Hulwah notables, to bring about a relaxation in the camp in order to avert an aggravation that could harm the militant ties between the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Hence, we would like to assert that we within the PFLP-GC will continue our efforts to safeguard our people's security so that the Palestinian national rifles may remain directed at the Zionist enemy and its agents. We will continue to fight on the side of the fraternal mujahidin within the ranks of the national and Islamic resistance in Lebanon. We will shun the 'Arafatist course, which sanctioned the use of arms to promote the treasonous Oslo accord and foment sedition from time to time. It is a revolution until the liberation of land and man.

[Signed] The PFLP-GC 's Southern Lebanon Command

Army Chief Rejects Link With Internal Politics

MM1506112995 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 14 Jun 95 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Requesting Not To Be Involved in the Internal Game, Lahhud Says: Army Is Not Engaged in Political Rivalry With Anyone"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Beirut, AL-HAYAH — Army Commander General Emile Lahhud has emphasized that "the Army is not in political rivalry with anyone. It is an institution which derives its legitimacy from its loyalty to the state, its adherence to the law, and its commitment to the political decisions made by the cabinet." He revealed that contacts were made with the media "appealing to them not to try to involve the Army in the internal political game."

The Army commander met with senior command officers, regional commanders, and commanders of combat brigades and regiments. He briefed them on the latest developments and possible repercussions for Lebanon and gave them his instructions. Speaking about the general situation in the region, he said that "negotiations are continuing to ensure withdrawal of the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon, western al-Biqa', and the Golan on the basis of the known constant principles." [passage omitted]

He said that "some of the positive signs which appeared recently in relation to the negotiations prove that the position of Syria and Lebanon was the soundest and strongest of all Arab positions." On the internal situation, he stressed that "the approaching dates awaiting Lebanon do not concern the Army except to the extent of their effect on the security situation." He pointed out that "the attempts by some media to involve the Army and the military in the presidential issue run contrary to the truth and quite contrary to the firm position adopted by the command, in word and deed, keeping the Army out of internal political rivalry." He stressed that "the only issue which concerns the Army is security." [passage omitted]

The Army commander recalled "the main principles which govern the work of the military institutions at this stage, namely defense of every inch of territory in the south and in western al-Biqa' whatever the difficulties and sacrifices required in the areas of Army deployment; considering resistance of the occupation outside these areas a legitimate national right until the termination of the occupation; maintaining and strengthening internal security in a way that would enable the fulfillment of regional and local processes to take place in an atmosphere of freedom, democracy, and stability; prevention of riots of any kind; and consolidation of national unity." [passage omitted]

Press Derides 'Contradictory' Israeli Stances

JN1606082795 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Jun 95

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] In an editorial today, AL-BA'TH discusses the agreement reached on the framework of understanding, which is considered a real chance to activate the peace process.

The paper stresses that Syria has never sought the stagnation of the peace process. Syria's seriousness has been noticeable since the start of the peace process and until now. Everyone testifies that Syria has made a major contribution to provide a suitable ground that would help this process proceed toward its goals.

The paper adds: Now that an agreement has been reached on a framework of understanding, it is impermissible to return to the stalemate that dominated the peace negotiations for over three and a half years. That stalemate was caused by Israel, which always refused to accept the facts, particularly the complete and full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to the 4 June 1967 borderlines. Syria still insists that real peace requires a show of credibility, and this credibility is represented by commitment to the resolutions of the international legitimacy which stipulate such a withdrawal.

The paper notes that the statements made by some Israeli officials on symbolic or limited withdrawals do not serve the peace process or the new opportunity. If such an attitude continues, the paper adds, the peace process may reach a stalemate again and this is not in the interest of the region or its security and stability.

AL-BA'TH says: Whoever is interested in achieving a real peace in the region must abandon illusions and deal with the conditions and requirements of the peace process very seriously and clearly. There are certain facts that cannot be avoided; that is, withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 borderlines.

Concluding its editorial, the paper says: Syria has supported, and continues to support the comprehensive solution that would achieve the just peace and spare the region any causes of tension.

On the same subject, AL-THAWRAH says in a commentary: Peace has never been a problem for Syria, which is committed to that peace as a strategic choice and a means to regain full rights. Syria supported all the efforts seeking to arrive at peace and provided one opportunity after another to achieve it on the basis of the Madrid Conference terms of reference, the practical implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy and the UN Security Council, and the land-for-peace formula. The other party, however, displayed a negative attitude, inflexibility and arrogance, and stuck to the gains of occupation. It laid stumbling blocks and obstacles, fabricated crises, and placed mines on the path of peace.

AL-THAWRAH says: Despite the success of the U.S. endeavor to arrive at a framework of understanding that would pave the way for the forthcoming meeting of the military officials in Washington in order to implement these principles, the chances to achieve peace are facing major problems. Moreover, the contradictory Israeli positions do not provide any reason for optimism.

The paper notes that there were some positive statements and acknowledgements by Israeli officials on the identity of the Golan Heights and the impossibility of arriving at a solution without returning them to Syria. There are, however, other contradictory statements that nullify all the above statements. This is a negative picture that reflects the maneuvering and hesitant Israeli position, which has failed to show any tangible progress toward peace. Instead, it showed retreats and attempts to bypass the basic elements and substance of the conflict. Such attempts have, so far, been the only, and major obstacle preventing the achievement of peace.

Concluding its commentary, AL-THAWRAH says: Syria is not at all interested in symbolic withdrawals. It insists on complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon. It cannot imagine the possibility of achieving comprehensive peace without such a withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 borderline.

In another commentary, AL-THAWRAH stresses that the success of the forthcoming meeting by military officials in Washington hinges on the extent of Israel's commitment to the principles of peace and the application of these principles, as well as on the extent of the U.S. seriousness in applying pressure on Israel to make it move in that direction.

The paper says: As President Hafiz al-Asad has said, we in Syria seek peace, based on implementing the UN resolution on whose basis the peace process was launched. Otherwise, let us, and let them, leave the matter to the future since we are not in a hurry.

Rabin Statements on 'Partial' Golan Pullout Assailed

JN1506143295 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear listeners: Occupation, holding on to occupied territory no matter how small it may be, and all related activities, such as settlement construction, all run counter to the state of peace desired by the Middle East region. It goes without saying that persistent efforts by many parties headed by the U.S. cosponsor of the peace process have been made to achieve this state of peace. Syria has welcomed the efforts of this cosponsor and all international peace efforts as well.

As a matter of fact, the parties promoting just peace in the Middle East have been surprised by Yitzhaq Rabin's recent statements on a partial withdrawal in exchange for complete normalization. This is because such statements could obstruct the progress of the peace process hoped for by the U.S. Administration if they reflect the views of the Israeli Government. The U.S. hope for progress in the peace process has elicited a measure of optimism in international political quarters, and was also reflected in statements by Israeli officials. That is why such statements appear to have aimed at reversing the positive climate created by Secretary of State Christopher's tour and the framework of understanding reached on the Syrian-Israeli track of negotiations with the persistent involvement and participation of the U.S. cosponsor.

We are astonished because Rabin himself acknowledged only a week ago that there can be no peace as long as the Israeli occupation of the Golan is maintained. As a matter of fact, Yitzhaq Rabin has trivialized the argument of the Israelis who believe that peace and the occupation of the Golan are compatible. He did so when he said that whoever says that peace can be achieved while retaining control of the Golan is telling a lie.

These Israeli statements cannot help achieve the required progress in the peace process. It is to be recalled that what has been achieved thus far; namely, the agreement on a framework for security arrangements, needs practical steps on the ground conducive to complete Israeli withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 borders. We should not forget that such an Israeli withdrawal would only uphold fairness and justice, and be in compliance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, which provide for such withdrawal.

Pro-peace figures and parties in the world believe that a public Israeli commitment to such withdrawal would provide proof of Israel's desire to achieve peace, particularly since the world public and the influential world parties have expressed their convictions that Syria's pursuit of just peace reflects a strategic option which should be reciprocated by Israel. Given all this, progress in the peace process or pushing it forward requires the Israeli Government to enlighten the Israelis about others' rights, and about the fundamentals of international law, which deem inadmissible the acquisition of others' territory by force. The Israeli Government must tell the Israeli public that peace is a cherished and honorable end, that it should not be equated with occupation and expansion, and that Israel would not be making any concession if it were to withdraw from the Arab territories it has occupied. This is a requirement that must be met if the peace process is to make progress. As for the talk on referendums or test of intentions, it cannot promote progress in the peace process.

Consequently, the Israeli side must provide the world community with proof that it is reciprocating Syria's strategic option of seeking just peace with a serious attitude grounded in respect for international law, and in compliance with the relevant international resolutions that will ensure peace, security, and stability if they are genuinely implemented. This is the language and the practices required if tanks are really to turn into plows, and if the huge military spending is to be diverted to promote the interests of the peoples of the region, who have the right to enjoy dignity and prosperity at the same time; that is, the dividends of just peace.

Israeli Request To Expel Jihad Leader Rejected

JN1506193195 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 13 Jun 95 p 24

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, AL-ITTIHAD — Informed sources in Cairo said the Syrian authorities have strongly rejected an urgent Israeli request, conveyed by Warren Christopher, U.S. secretary of state, and before him by Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator of the peace process. The request asks Syria to expel Shaykh Fathi al-Shaqaqi, leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement, who lives in Damascus after he was deported from the occupied territories several years ago. Israel accuses al-Shaqaqi of being the mastermind of the operations carried out by the Islamic Jihad in the West Bank against the occupation authorities and the Jewish settlers.

The Arab sources told AL-ITTIHAD that Israel, through Christopher, stressed this request saying such a step would halt acts of violence and military operations against the Israeli authorities in the occupied territory.

AL-ITTIHAD learned that Christopher, for his part, asked the Syrian authorities not to receive Fathi al-Shaqaqi's wife who was expelled by the Israeli occupation authorities a few days ago. Christopher promised U.S. contacts with Yemen to accept al-Shaqaqi and his wife and ask him not to carry out any activities against the Israeli authorities and to prevent him from contacting Islamic Jihad leaders in the occupied territories.

The Syrian authorities strongly turned down this request and told the U.S. secretary of state that the presence of al-Shaqaqi and other leaders of Palestinian factions opposed to the Oslo agreement and the Declaration of Principles is a purely Syrian internal affair, and that Syria rejects any external interference in its domestic or foreign policy.

Arab sources in Cairo stressed that Syrian President Hafiz al- Asad openly told Christopher during their recent meeting that Syria does not intend to interfere in the activities of the leaders of the 10 Palestinian factions who are present in Syria since these activities do not encroach on the Syrian security and sovereignty and are directed against the occupation authorities. Therefore, the decision to ban their activities depend on two things: The success of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and establishing a Palestinian state, and concluding a comprehensive peace agreement between Syria and Israel.

Columnist: Lebanon Will Not Submit to 'Coercion'

JN1506182195 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 12 Jun 95 p 3

[From the "With the Events" column by Riyad Mahmud: "Israel Will Not Succeed in Provoking Lebanon"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Since the start of the Madrid peace conference, Israel has been attempting to single out the Arab parties one by one. It succeeded to some extent by concluding agreements with two Arab parties in an inequitable [ghayr mutakafi'ah] manner. Those who are interested in the Middle East issue believe that these two agreements were mainly in Israel's interest, and that through them, it got more than it expected.

Israel believes that through pressure, coercion, and flexing of military muscle, it can impose on Lebanon what is not in line with its independence and sovereignty. Israel is continuing with the same attempt. Perhaps in Israel's view, Lebanon is the weakest link in the Arab chain. Therefore, these Israeli attempts began way before the Madrid conference, that is, since the mid-70s or even before. Lebanon managed, however, through its own elements of continuation, existence, and living, to confront the conspiracies and challenges facing it and to triumph over them, beginning with its victory over the civil war and its adherence to the bases of the peace process, which was launched in Madrid in coordination and cooperation with sisterly Syria.

Evidence shows that Lebanon is adhering to its constant stands regarding independence, sovereignty, and coordination with Syria. However, Israel and some of those who are proud of their peace treaties with it — despite all the concessions they have offered — are still wagering that Lebanon might submit to offering some concessions on its sovereignty, independence, and dignity. Israel continues to carry out daily barbaric attacks against the villages and cities of Lebanon in order to achieve this objective. Meanwhile, others are trying to question Syrian-Lebanese coordination and perhaps the U.S.-sponsored negotiating process as well.

In all cases, as acknowledged by all those who are faithful to the Arab right, and by neutral parties, Syria represents the Arab honor in the ongoing peace negotiations. It will not concede or relinquish any right. As for Lebanon, all tests have proven the depth, strength, and effect of the relationship between Syria and Lebanon. Moreover, the elements of resistance and confrontation in defense of the Arab right exist and are reflected everyday by standing against Israeli schemes and plans until peace is achieved based on justice ['adl] and equality [musawah] according to the laws and resolutions of international legitimacy.

Afghanistan

Foreign Affairs Minister Leaves for Visit to Iran

LD1506191495 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1430 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Heading a high-ranking government delegation, Dr. Najibollah Lafra'i, minister of state for foreign affairs, this morning left for Tehran at the invitation of Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [passage omitted]

Coordination Council Destroys Kabul Helicopters

LD1506183495 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0240 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Two government helicopters carrying arms and ammunition were downed by [words indistinct] of Coordination Council in Samangan Province.

A source in [words indistinct] reported to our correspondent that the two helicopters were transporting arms and ammunition to a Kabul administration military headquarters in some areas of Samangan. They came under heavy fire from the Coordination Council's jet fighter aircraft. They were completely destroyed in the air.

The report adds that clashes are continuing between Coordination Council and Kabul administration forces in the region of [name indistinct], Samangan Province.

Four Killed in Air Attack by Dostam Forces

LD1606112995 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] Clashes are continuing in the Jowzgan region of Afghanistan between government troops and 'Abdol Rashid Dostam's forces. Our correspondent reports from Kabul:

[Unidentified correspondent] The Afghan Government says that its forces have achieved fresh victories in battles south of Jowzjan Province. According to Afghan Defense Ministry sources, following their victory in the Kuhestanat region of Jowzjan Province, forces loyal to Borhanoddin Rabbani took over control of the Sangcharak and Balkh-ab areas in the south and southeast of that province.

Jowzjan Province is the most significant region in north Afghanistan still controlled by General Dostam. If the claims made by Rabbani's government are confirmed, this means that they have inflicted a significant blow on the National Movement of the North [Jonbesh-e Melli-ye Shomal]

Our correspondent's report from Kabul also mentions that an attack on Kabul, in the early hours of this morning, by an aircraft belonging to General Dostam's forces left four dead and a large number of wounded. During the attack three bombs hit central Kabul inflicting considerable damage on residential areas.

Hezb-e Eslami Leader Hekmatyar Gives Rare Interview

95LA0231A Jeddah UKAZ in Arabic 30 Apr 95 p 11

[Interview with Hezb-e Eslami leader Golboddin Hekmatyar by Khalid Taha in Soroubi; date not given: "I Am Lying in Wait for Taleban; I Will Not Reject Rabbani"—first two paragraphs are 'UKAZ introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] I said to him: You are living in a "tourist" resort! He answered with a smile: It is a truly beautiful area.

I said this to Engineer Golboddin Hekmatyar, the Hezb-e Eslami leader and the most ardent opponent of Rabbani's government, when we arrived at his place of residence in Soroubi, located two hours from Kabul, the capital, and accessible via very rugged mountain trails. His residence is located at the foothill of a mountain that overlooks an area of vast lakes formed by the Kabul River as a result of the presence of a dam that contains the main electric power plants for the Afghan capital. The sight of the house, surrounded by beautiful gardens, is breathtaking. What made the scene even more magnificent were the heavy rains that drenched us completely. We entered a room containing modest furniture and prepared for us to conduct the interview. Hekmatyar entered the room and welcomed me, saying, "I stopped giving press interviews long ago. But when I learned that you are from Saudi Arabia, I agreed to give this interview." It was then that I uttered my first phrase about the tourist resort. I then started the dialogue in which Hekmatyar expressed a number of his opinions, with some of which we disagree strongly.

[Taha] How is your country's condition now?

[Hekmatyar] Regrettably, the war still goes on. We had imagined that this war would end with the formation of a provisional government, followed by elections. Regrettably, the war continues.

[Taha] So, why has it continued all this time, and what prevents it from ending?

[Hekmatyar] There is foreign intervention by those who do not want the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan and who consider such a government a threat to themselves and to their interests. These are the ones who cause the war to continue.

[Taha] Would you name specific parties to us?

[Hekmatyar] There is a number of parties. I can say that they are the parties that fear the establishment of an Islamic state that they view as a danger to themselves. They say this explicitly, and they express their fear of Islam with monikers such as fundamentalism or internationalism. These are the parties that cause all ongoing wars in Islamic countries and wars launched against Muslims in Europe, Asia, and Africa. So, the ongoing war in Afghanistan is not the result of domestic issues but of wars against Islam—wars imposed on Muslims.

[Taha] Why do you reject Rabbani's government?

[Hekmatyar] It is not so. It is not that we reject Rabbani's government. We only want these wars to end first. Then, we want the formation of a provisional government that comes as a result of understanding among all parties concerned. Power should be then transferred to this government, which must assume control of all of Afghanistan's governorates, provinces, and districts. This government must then leave it to the Afghan people to choose their future freely. This is what we want. I can accept anybody if he is elected by the people. I will not reject Rabbani or anybody else if he is chosen by the people. If all factions agree to Rabbani's government, I too will accept it. To attain this, a provisional government must first come into existence through understanding. What I mean is that all factions must get together, develop an understanding, and agree to a provisional government. Authority will be then transferred to this government, and elections will follow.

[Taha] I notice that you speak of elections whereas leaders of the other factions consider elections a divisive pitfall and believe they will not be joined by losers.

[Hekmatyar] Let me repeat that we want elections; i.e. an assembly that represents the Afghan people. Such members can be named only through election.

[Taha] Does this mean that you do not seek to be the president of Afghanistan?

[Hekmatyar] I seek to create an Islamic state. We have been engaged in the jihad since we were young men to establish an Islamic state here. We don't want personal authority. We want the authority of Islam.

[Taha] When you were appointed prime minister in Rabbani's government, you withdrew [presumably meaning declined]. You did not even enter Kabul, the capital. What were the reasons?

[Hekmatyar] Some people who feared Hezb-e Eslami's entry to Kabul and into the government were the reason. There were those who said they would not permit Hezb-e Eslami's entry to Kabul. The U.S. Pentagon said the same thing. I do not know how they managed to prevent me from entering Kabul.

[Taha] They say this. But why did you refrain from entering the capital? I would like a clarification.

[Hekmatyar] There was a war, and I insisted on a government emanating from an understanding among all factions. I did not want to enter that [Rabbani's] government and to be chosen its prime minister. This was the situation. I had insisted on this even before Najib's [Najibullah's] fall. But they—meaning a number of commanders—insisted on Rabbani's government. You are perhaps aware that I nominated brother Abdol Sabur Farid for prime minister at the beginning because I wanted him as prime minister.

[Taha] A short while ago, you said that the war between you is a result of foreign intervention. If this is your conviction, then why have you allowed all this to happen? Why weren't you able to develop an understanding that would spare you the need to shed each other's blood?

[Hekmatyar] Yes, there is no doubt an understanding would have been better. We want this now and we are prepared for it. But what has happened is that the presence of communists in authority, foreign intervention, and the leaders' alliances cause these battles. This war has been imposed on the Afghan people and on us. We did not want it. As you see now, we have left our positions. Yet, the war goes on in Kabul, and shelling continues. This is happening even though we have abandoned our trenches around the capital. The war goes on in Kabul, Herat, Meydan and other provinces. Kabul's people continue to kill each other, homes are still destroyed, and bloodshed persists. So, we are not the cause of this war. What I mean is that even though we have retreated from our positions and we have ceased fire, the war continues. (At the time, Kabul, the capital, was calm and security conditions were completely stable).

[Taha] You mean that you left your positions around Kabul of your own volition and not because you were defeated by the government forces?

[Hekmatyar] Yes, I left my positions of my own volition.

[Taha] What is your position toward the Taleban Movement?

[Hekmatyar] We are now "lying in wait," as they say, meaning that we are waiting. We have left the field open to them. But, at the right time, we will decide our position toward the Taleban and will determine what we will do.

[Taha] But you have declared your support for them.

[Hekmatyar] This is untrue. We have not supported any faction.

[Taha] Well, what is the story of your formation of a shura [consultative] council, called Hamahangi and your selection of Mojaddedi as its chairman?

[Hekmatyar] This is a simple and ordinary matter.

[Taha] Have you gotten Mojaddedi's approval of the nomination?

[Hekmatyar] He is a member of the coordination shura [council].

[Taha] There is an accusation to the effect that Hekmatyar is one of those who have contributed effectively to transforming the state of Afghanistan into the debris of a state with his resistance to Mojaddedi's government at the outset and then his resistance to Rabbani, and so forth. What is your opinion?

[Hekmatyar] Where did you hear this accusation?

[Taha] These accusations are reiterated at more than one level.

[Hekmatyar] In fact, all the media accuse me of this. (He said it angrily and trying to cover his anger with a smile, and I do not know what kind of smile it was.)

[Taha] What is more, there are other accusations, including accusations that you sponsor terrorism, participate in gun and drug running networks, and contribute effectively to training and supervising a large number of terrorists whom you send to various countries to carry out terrorist acts.

[Hekmatyar] (He answers sarcastically, with a smile still painted on his face.) Of nine terrorist centers in the world, I am in charge of six! This is what they say about me. So, you have read or heard this in the Western press, and you are entitled to ask this question.

Listen, I am a Muslim. I want an Islamic state; I want to restore the Islamic nation's glory; I want freedom for the Islamic peoples; I want the Islamic state to be armed; and I want the nation to unite. Islam's enemies fear this goal, and this is why they make all these accusations against me.

I adhere to Islam; I want to live in its shade; and I abide by its principles as a complete entity. The West fears this. It likes lackeys, and it uses its propaganda to promote them. Those not prepared to be lackeys are accused of fundamentalism and terrorism, and the West employs its propaganda against them. The Islamic nation must unite against this and must understand this stance by Islam's enemies. I believe that the future belongs to Islam, and I will carry on with the jihad to accomplish this objective.

[Taha] I believe that the objective you seek will be faced with strong opposition.

[Hekmatyar] (He interrupted me to say:) Yes, this is normal. The war will continue. He who wants freedom must not fear war. One cannot live free without accepting these catastrophes. He who is not prepared to endure catastrophes cannot attain freedom. It is not easy for a goal to be accomplished without difficulties.

[Taha] What are the latest contacts between you and the other parties to develop a national detente formula?

[Hekmatyar] Ceaseless contacts are made by all the factions, beginning with Rabbani and ending with the Taleban and the other factions, with Hezb-e Eslami. Contacts are also made by the foreign governments that are behind these factions. However, we have decided to wait for a while.

[Taha] What is the size of your forces currently, in terms of both numbers and armament capabilities?

[Hekmatyar] I can say that the Islamic movement in Afghanistan was started by the Hezb-e Eslami 26 years ago, during King Zahir Shah's administration. We took up arms against Dawud's government. Hundreds of thousands of Hezb-e Eslami members were jailed and tens of thousands of those remained in jail for 10 or more years on the charge of membership in the Hezb-e Eslami. Those who were martyred in jails and trenches exceeded 150,000 in number. Nearly 80 percent of the refugees were from the Hezb-e Eslami, according to official statistics in Iran and Pakistan.

(Suddenly, Hekmatyar backtracked to the issue of his retreat to Soroubi:)

We have now moved our positions from Shersyab to Soroubi. How could they view this as a defeat for us, considering that we had defended our trenches in Shersyab for three years? How could they consider our retreat a defeat when there was no battle in the first place where we could be defeated? We decided to abandon those positions.

They say that the Taleban defeated us. They did not defeat us, and no battle took place between us because they wore white turbans and carried the Koran in their hands. We did not want the Afghan people to say that Hezb-e Eslami fought ulema and religious school students.

[Taha] It is noticed that the Taleban began with a sound approach but that they recently started to soil their hands with blood and to demand that both the good and the evil hand over their weapons or be faced with war. What is your opinion of this observation?

[Hekmatyar] We refuse disarming Afghan citizens. This is our principled position. We want weapons to remain in the people's hands. As for heavy weapons, they can be handed over to an Islamic government when it is formed in Kabul. Even when an Islamic government is formed, we do not want to disarm the Afghan people.

[Taha] Does not this, meaning the people being armed and militarized, pose a threat?

[Hekmatyar] Not at all. We do not believe that there is a threat. Rather, we consider it a simple and ordinary thing. There, in Washington or in New York, a large number of weapons is found in the U.S. people's hands. The danger is in failure to establish a strong central government in Kabul. Herein lies the danger of the presence of arms in the people's hands.

[Taha] What about the Afghan Arabs?

[Hekmatyar] I do not know the Afghan Arabs.

[Taha] Everybody knows that you were the first to gather and use them?

[Hekmatyar] When the jihad ended, they returned to their countries. We have welcomed those who have stayed in Afghanistan. A large number of Afghan Arabs returned to their countries. Why aren't they considered a threat there whereas the small number who have remained in Afghanistan because they have not been able to return to their countries are considered a threat?

Those who have remained here do not exceed 50 or 60 in number. Why are they considered a big threat?

[Taha] Do they continue to be a part of your forces?

[Hekmatyar] (He avoids an answer by saying:) The truth is that the West wants to tell the Islamic states that Afghanistan is a threat to them and that the presence of a number of Arabs who fled their countries and who have stayed here is a source of big danger to them in the future.

[Taha] In Kabul, there has been a yearlong power outage. You are accused of being the reason because of your control of Soroubi, where the main power plants that supply the capital with electricity are found. Is this accusation true?

[Hekmatyar] Hekmatyar has said that if the government can convey electricity to the capital, he has no objection. As you can notice, electricity is not out here in Soroubi. There is a power outage in the capital because the lines and posts that carry power to the capital have been destroyed as a result of the war.

[Taha] You mean that you are not responsible for the outage?

[Hekmatyar] Not at all. I am not the reason for it. The war is.

[Taha] Where does Hekmatyar get aid?

[Hekmatyar] From God, may He be praised and exalted.

[Taha] This is a foregone conclusion. But from where do you receive your material, moral, and military aid?

[Hekmatyar] God is enough for us, and we believe in this. When we launched this jihad, nobody imagined that we would be able to confront those forces: the communists, with the Russians behind them. Nobody imagined that we would be able to fight. The United States itself feared the Russians after they had defeated her in Vietnam. I recall that U.S. Army officers contacted us and told us that they were prepared to carry out the final act to topple the communist regime, but that they feared a Russian invasion, especially since the Russian Army had reached the border. What can we do, and how would the world react to a Russian invasion, if it occurs? We sent delegates to contact a number of countries.

At the time, the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan said that Washington believed that the Russians would not invade Afghanistan and that, if they did invade, the Americans would suspend the talks they were holding with them at the time and would stop the shipment of wheat to Russia. This was going to be the U.S. reaction!

A month later, the invasion took place and Carter's administration said that the Americans would not tolerate any further Russian advance, meaning that Afghanistan's issue had ended and that the Americans would not tolerate a Russian advance toward Pakistan and the Gulf. This was their position. Nobody imagined that the Afghans would be able to confront the Russians. Four months later, they saw that the Afghans were actually able to confront the Russians and to stop their occupation of the country. So, what I am saying is that we started the jihad with our intrinsic capabilities and with reliance on God, may He be praised and exalted.

[Taha] There are rumors that Hezb-e Eslami forces have been sent to defend the government forces.

[Hekmatyar] This has not happened. To date, we have not decided to support any party. We need to wait to find out what develops.

[Taha] Till when?

[Hekmatyar] Be patient and you will find out at the right time.

[Taha] Do you believe that Borhanoddin Rabbani will actually transfer power?

[Hekmatyar] I do not think so. He wants to remain in power.

[Taha] What are your expectations regarding the UN initiative and its envoy, Mr. Mestiri? Are you optimistic about the possibility of developing a solution?

[Hekmatyar] Not at all. We are not at all optimistic. Mestiri will not be able to settle the Afghan issue. The United Nations has not been able to resolve any problem or issue in the world. So, how can it solve the Afghan problem?

[Taha] To conclude this interview, do you wish to address any words?

[Hekmatyar] Yes, I would like to tell our brothers in the Kingdom [of Saudi Arabia] that the Afghan people are their brothers and that they must view them from this perspective.

India

U.S. Accused of Using Food as 'Political Weapon'

BK1306131295 Madras BUSINESS LINE in English 8 Jun 95 p 20

[Article by Devinder Sharma: "When food is used as a weapon"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It has happened in the past. At times. India had succumbed to the US pressure when the latter threatened to withhold food shipments. Even after the onset of green revolution, food was effectively used as a diplomatic tool against India. But then those were the days when India had just begun to lay the foundations of a strong network for agricultural research and production.

Nearly 25 years after the seeds of green revolution were sown, India is busy dismantling the safeguards that protected it against frequent arm-twisting. And it is not without reason that the US is once again keen that the world's second biggest agricultural research and development infrastructure is gradually passed on into private hands. The focus will then shift to commercial agriculture at the cost of essential food for the hungry millions. A much easier method of using food as a political weapon.

It was in 1974, the year of the first World Food Conference, that the US had accepted that it used food aid as a political weapon. The then US Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Earl Butz, had categorically stated: "Food is a weapon. It is now one of the principal tools in our negotiating kit." Not that the US had earlier refrained from using this as a weapon without any regard for human rights.

For any developing country, the steady erosion of its ability and capability to produce enough food for its people is fraught with dangers. More so for a country like India which has a third of the world's hungry and malnourished. Although it appears that we have enough foodgrains in our kitty at present, independent estimates point towards difficult times ahead. The Washington-based Worldwatch Institute has calculated that India will need to import at least 40 million tonnes by the year 2030. The more the requirement of food imports, the bigger the threat.

It first happened when Lal Bahadur Shastri was Prime Minister. His pronouncements on Vietnam, calling it an act of aggression, had offended Mr. Lyndon Johnson. To teach Shastri a "lesson", the US had begun to release food aid in driblets under the "food for peace" programme. The stop-go policy, as it was then referred to, meant releasing food in small quantities and for obvious purposes.

There came a stage when foodgrain stocks were sufficient for only two weeks, with nothing in transit or in the pipeline. So much so that when the then Agriculture Minister, Mr. C. Subramaniam went to Rome to attend a FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization] conference, Mr. Johnson had directed his Agriculture Secretary, who was supposed to be meeting his Indian counterpart, to resort to arm- twisting as regards the economic policies India should be following.

Not only in relation to macro-economic policies, food aid was also used to push through the interests of certain American companies. When India did not allow Standard Oil, an American company based in Indiana, the privilege to sell fertiliser that it produced at a price fixed by itself, the US was naturally annoyed. Not appreciating the restrictions India had imposed on the company, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) restricted food supplies to India on a month-to-month basis till the time the company was allowed to operate without any constraints.

Subsequently, Mrs Indira Gandhi too had to bear the brunt of the US pressure. Two years of continuous drought in 1965-66 and 1966-67 had forced the Government to import 10 and 11 million tonnes of foodgrains. Mr. Subramaniam recalls that the things had drifted to such a level that at one stage there was enough stock for only two weeks left with the Government.

In neighbouring Bangladesh, food shipments were held up at a time when the newborn republic was reeling under a severe famine. The US, however, agreed to do so if Bangladesh dropped its plans to try the Pakistani prisoners of war. While the US continued to dither, an estimated 100,000 people had perished from starvation.

When it again approached the US for food aid, the US Ambassador to Bangladesh put forth its regrets stating that unless Dhaka stopped jute exports to Cuba it could not provide foodgrains.

Thanks to the spectacular success achieved in attaining self- sufficiency in foodgrain production, both India and Bangladesh are now in a position to withstand any kind of political pressure. And it is due to our ability to meet our requirements of food that the US has been unable to force India to accept the nuclear non-proliferation treaty [NPT]. A year or two of heavy foodgrain imports, like the ones in 1965-66 and 1966-67, and India will find it difficult to resist signing the NPT.

But contrary to the harmful effects of the politics that underlines food aid, more and more people in India, particularly some industrialists and economists, have begun to say that self- sufficiency in foodgrains is a costly proposition. Their suggestion is that India should resort to cheap food imports as and when the need arises. And since food, howsoever cheap it may be, does not come without strings attached, the self-interested programmes of fiscal management of the donors is quite separate from the problem of eliminating hunger. And herein lies a grave danger.

The task, therefore, for an over-populated giant like India is not to allow any slackening in the field of food production and agriculture. Nor can the massive agricultural research infrastructure, comprising 27 full-fledged agricultural universities and 70-odd national centres for research on various aspects of farming, be allowed to be sold to private houses. Agricultural research has to remain in the public domain if the social objectives of feeding the nation are to be met. By its very definition, private initiative is profit-oriented, with little or no regard for social compulsions. Unlike in the west, privatisation of agricultural research in India may only signal the beginning of the end.

Columnist Criticizes U.S. Missle Defense Focus

BK1306124795 Delhi THE ECONOMIC TIMES in English 8 Jun 95 p 5

["Global Watch" column by K. Subrahmanyam: "Theatre missile defence"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The US is embarked upon a major effort to sell to selected industrialised countries its concept of theatre missile defence. Developing a capability to intercept missiles in flight has been advocated for a long time. The 'Star Wars' project, also known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was pursued for several years at the cost of several billion dollars and then was wound up by the Clinton administration.

But the military industrial complex has not given up on it. Earlier Saddam Husayn came to their rescue, and when Iraq used Scud missiles the Americans advertised their 'Patriots' as their answer. While Patriots intercepted a number of Scuds it was clear that it was more an anti-aircraft than an anti-missile system.

The Americans thereafter started focusing on missile proliferation as a threat to their security. No potentially hostile nation except Russia and China is in a position to reach continental United States with its missile. But the Americans want to ensure protection for their troops, their warships and their aircraft when they send them abroad in their missions to police the world peace.

Consequently missile interception features prominently in the 'counter proliferation' strategy of the US. Further, they feel the technologies developed for Star Wars can be put to use for theatre missile defence, and there may be a return on the amounts already expended. They are of the view there is a potential lucrative market for this sophisticated system in a world where the arms sales are declining.

One problem they face is the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty which prohibits the US and USSR from developing any system which can intercept missiles. The Americans are attempting to re-interpret that to mean that it applies to strategic warheads coming via outer space and not theatre and tactical warheads.

Already talks are taking place between the US and Russia about re-interpreting and, if necessary, modifying the treaty to provide for the theatre missile defence system. It is sought to be sold as an insurance against 'rogue states' like Iraq, Iran, North Korea and Libya. The system is of no use against terrorists attacks. It cannot stop any suicidal attacks by any means other than missiles.

The Americans are holding a high-power sales conference in London on the virtues of theatre missile defence and have invited their allies including Japan and Israel and Russia to take part in it. The Americans have collaboration agreements on missile defence with Israel, which had already started on an analogous programme 'Arrow'.

The US is particularly keen that Japan should take part in the R&D. Till now the Japanese had been giving an impression they were interested. But in a recent seminar in Japan I gained an impression that Japan was not interested in theatre missile defence (TMD) for very valid reasons.

It would cost $65 billions for R&D and that is too high a cost for defence against the remote possibility of dealing with a North Korean nuclear threat. Secondly, if the system proves successful and the Japanese public gain confidence in it they will ask why should the Americans continue to stay in Japan. That would adversely affect US-Japan relations. Thirdly, the TMD system will provide local area defence for US forces in Japan and to Japanese defence forces but no defence for the Japanese population. Lastly both in the Japanese army and air force there are strong bureaucratic resistance to the emergence of a missile defence command as a new branch of service.

The Americans do not explain why, if the NPT [nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty], which has been extended indefinitely, proves a success, there is a need for theatre missile defence and which country will pose such a threat.

If the Americans feel that in spite of near universal adoption of the NPT there will be threats then other countries like India, which have two nuclear adversaries on its borders will need defences to deter such nuclear threats. The American policy appears to be caught in a dilemma between claims that NPT is an absolute success and their commercial compulsions to sell the theatre missile defence systems by scaring people about possible theatre nuclear threats. It is one more instance of lack of clarity in US perspectives and policies.

Commentary Views Business Ties With U.S.

Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Commentary by G. Srinivasan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A three-day grand Indo-American business exposition began on Wednesday [14 June] at the Convention Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey, featuring as many as 1,500 Indian companies with a record number of 50,000 visitors slated to participate in the magnificent meet. The highlight of the event is a two-day seminar on doing business in America and India, featuring speakers from the Indian Government, the U.S. Administration, and the Congress; experts, corporate executives, and officials from the export-import —EXIM — bank of the U.S, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund — IMF.

At a time when the Indo-U.S. bilateral relations have been brisk [words indistinct due to break in transmission] footing. The business exposition has come at the right time to serve as a symbol of growing relations between the world's two mega democracies. The chief executive officer of the Global Exposition Incorporated [as heard], organizer of the current meeting, Mr. (Su Lu), said the states of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania are sending representatives to speak about doing business in America successfully, which would be supplemented with presentations by two successful Non-Resident Indians. Noteworthy among the U.S. speakers in the exposition are former Deputy Assistant Secretary in the U.S. Department of Commerce Mr. Kenneth Cutshaw, and former Deputy Director of the U.S. Agency for International Development — USAID, Mr. (Steven P. Ment). In the program on doing business in India, the deputy chief of mission at the Indian Embassy, Mr. Kamal Sibal, would provide an exposition, while the union textile minister, Mr. G. Venkataswamy, currently in the U.S., would deliver the key-note address.

The exposition has come at a time when relations between Washington and New Delhi at the highest level remained exceptionally cordial and mutually beneficial. The U.S. is already India's largest investor and is a trading partner with more than $7.5 billion of trade per annum. This volume is still growing at more than 20 percent annually. From India's standpoint, forging global business links as part of its new economic policy of globalization and liberalization has become a priority area for action. With the tariffs being slashed, fast investments clearance procedures, and rapid repatriation of dividends, the U.S. sees India as a strong growth pole [as heard] in Asia.

On its part, India has been having a favorable balance of trade with the U.S. in dollar terms for the last one decade. The only exception being 1991. In 1993-94, the trade balance in favor of India was more than $1.3 billion. The recent pact to set up U.S.- India Commercial Alliance is likely to further boost bilateral trade. This is because the commercial alliances provides a framework for enhanced interaction between private sector enterprises in both countries for expanding business relations. More recently, the meeting of the Indo-U.S. Economic and Commercial Subcommission was held at Delhi on 10 April 1995 where issues relating to bilateral economic and commercial relations between the U.S. and India were discussed. It was decided that the initial work program of the subcommission would focus on meeting India's infrastructural needs and the discussion focussed on the opportunities for increasing U.S. investments in India, particularly in the core infrastructure sectors. During his last month's visit to New Delhi, this point was underscored by Mr. Stein, the regional director, South Asia of the U.S. Trade and Development Agency — TDA, a U.S. government body providing funds for feasibility studies related to major new projects in developing countries. He said that TDA had provided funds to the tune of $7 million to projects in India, including three giant oil refineries in private and public sectors. Besides, in the private sector a number of well-known U.S. groups are expanding their operations in India. Though some occasional pin pricks do crop up to spoil bilateral relations, especially when the Clinton administration tried to please protectionist lobbies by taking a hardline stand against India for its alleged unfair trade practices in not opening up financial services, by and large, the relations between the two countries have been free from past misconceptions and mistrust. The ongoing India business exposition in the Atlantic City has not come a day too soon and it is hoped that it would go a long way to strengthen and reinforce the existing commercial and business ties between the two countries.

Navy Pressure on Sri Lankan Rebel Group Noted

BK1306124995 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 7 Jun 95 p 7

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Madras, June 6 — The Indian Navy on Monday [5 June] claimed partial success in preventing the Sri Lankan Tamil Tiger rebels from using the Palk Bay to ferry supplies for their forces now in the twelfth year of war to secure an independent "Eelam".

"We can't claim that there is no movement at all. But our patrolling has acted as a damper on the movement, curbing it to some extent. We have not eliminated it, but have limited it," Vice Admiral P. S. Das Flag Officer Commanding in Chief of the Indian Navy's Eastern Naval Command told newsmen here.

The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] is known to be clandestinely using Tamil Nadu for securing essentials like petrol diesel, munitions, clothes and other essentials, despite a ban on it following the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in May 1991.

"The smuggling cannot be entirely stopped," Admiral Das admitted. Giving reasons he said that the coastline facing the troubled north of Sri Lanka was long, about 100 miles. Further, there were the fishing boats ever present in the area in large numbers. On any given day there were at least 500 fishing boats in the area, many routinely crossing the international boundary line in search of a good catch of prawns, he said. "In such a situation, policing is not easy," Admiral Das contended.

Adm Das said that despite the difficulties, the supply lines of the Tamil militants had been put under a strain. "The very fact that the LTTE has been seizing Indian fishing boats and releasing them on the condition that the fishermen supply petrol and diesel, shows that its movement across the bay has been curbed," he said.

"The gathering storm in the Palk Bay region could have security implications for us in India," Adm Das said. India and the troubled north of Sri Lanka are separated by the Palk Bay, a narrow 35-km wide stretch of shallow rocky sea, for decades a haven for smugglers.

Asked about the activities of the Sea Tigers, the naval wing of the LTTE, which has destroyed Sri Lankan naval boats even in the high security Trincomalee Harbour Adm Das said: "They have to be taken note of. We have to be alert and watchful."

Official Alleges 'Suicide Squad' Infiltration

BK1506130795 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Tamil Nadu, the leader of the Congress-I legislature party, Mr. S.R. Balasubramaniam, has alleged that a suicide squad of the outlawed LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] had infiltrated into the state with specific targets. He was briefing newsmen in Madras today. He said that Janata Party leader Dr. Subramaniam Swamy is one of the LTTE targets. Mr. Balasubramaniam also accused the ruling AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munetra Kazhagam] government of encouraging LTTE activities.

PRC Official Suggests Medical Cooperation

BK1306110895 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] China has suggested to India to explore possibilities of cooperation in vaccine development for birth control and communicable diseases. The suggestion came from the Chinese health minister, Dr. (He Jusheng) when he called on the deputy minister for health and family welfare, Mr. Paban Singh Ghatowar, in New Delhi today.

Pakistan Reportedly Fires Rockets on Kashmir

BK1306151995 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1430 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pakistani troops fired rockets on the border areas of Rajauri [and] Punch Districts for the third day today. Two rockets were fired this morning at Dhagalung village in Mendhar sector. But, there was no loss of life or property.

Two rockets were fired yesterday near Mendhar and three on Sunday [11 June] night on Punch city, in which one local journalist and his family were injured.

Forces Detain 38 Bound for 'Training' in Pakistan

BK1506130595 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the Kashmir Valley, 38 persons — mostly in the age group of 15-20 years — were arrested while trying to cross over into Pak-occupied Kashmir for arms training. An official spokesman told our Srinagar correspondent that these boys were spotted by the security forces in the Kupwara Sector and taken into custody. The youths admitted that they were forcibly being taken to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir for arms training. They also said that militants threatened to kill their kith and kin if they did not go.

*Export Sector's Dynamism Makes Global Impact

95AS0414F Madras THE HINDU in English 18 May 95 p 12

[Unattributed article: "India's Share in World Trade"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The optimistic projection about India's share in world trade going up from the present level of 0.7 per cent to 1 or even 1.5 per cent in the next one or two years is prompted by the country's bright export performance during 1994-95. If such an increase materialises, it will certainly be a big jump which could leave India flush with exchange earnings and make the anticipated heavy debt repayment obligations during the next decade much easier to finance. The dynamism which the export sector seems to have developed should be kept up to make India's global presence more perceptible than it is at present. Right now, according to the statistics given by the World Trade Organisation, India takes the 24th place among the 30 countries in its share of world trade in 1994.

The efforts which the stepping up of India's share in world exports from the present 0.7 per cent to 1 or 1.5 per cent will have to be herculean. If the present pick-up in the world trade from the recessionary trends is kept up and the annual growth in the world trade touches the rate of 9 per cent posited by the WTO in the next five years, it would have gone up from the $3,318 billions to $5,105 billions. The growth in India's foreign trade will have to stay at the 18 per cent achieved between 1993 and 1994 (according to WTO estimates) and go up from $24.4 billions in 1994 to $55.8 billions in the next five years for pushing up its share in the world trade from the present 0.7 to 1.09 per cent. If, as the WTO has anticipated, the 9 per cent growth in the volume of world merchandise exports in 1994 is not sustained and drops to 8 per cent in 1995, it will call for an even more strenuous effort by India to be able to step up its share in the world trade.

Achieving success with an export effort of such staggering dimensions hinges very much not merely upon the vigour which the country's export sector could bring to this task but also upon how congenial the world — more particularly the regional — trade environment remains during the years ahead. The 9 per cent increase in world merchandise exports in 1994 was more than twice the rate of increase achieved in 1993 and was the highest recorded since 1976. Such an increase had resulted from the 3.5 per cent increase in the world merchandise output in 1994 from less than 1 per cent in the previous year. Economic recovery in Europe, Asia and America had brought about this increase in the global output and the exportable surplus which it generated. The other aspect of this increase in world output is that the 9 per cent rise relates to the volume of the output which the value rose still higher by 12 per cent because of the increase in the world unit prices in dollar terms because of the decline in its value in relation to the other major world currencies. The WTO reports also indicate that the world merchandise exports were more prominent in 1994 than the earnings from tourism and services.

Of particular interest to India is that the *volume* of merchandise imports by Asia registered a 14.5 per cent increase in 1994 with Korea and Malaysia registering the highest increases of 21 and 25 per cent respectively. Targeting these Asian countries for its exports should, therefore, merit serious attention. Since production costs in the newly industrialised East Asian countries have been going up because of rising labour costs, the setting up of export-oriented joint ventures in India with the industrialists from these countries should be of mutual benefit. In fact, the big strides which the NIEs [expansion not given] had taken during the last three decades is attributable largely to the location of offshore production centres in these countries by U.S. and Japanese industry.

Iran

Official Addresses U.S. 'Hostile Acts'

LD1606105195 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Head of the Judiciary] Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi led the Friday [16 June] prayers in Tehran today. The acting Friday prayer imam of Tehran said the 'Ashura maneuvers in Neynava was a warning to the enemies of God and Islam.

He added: Many years ago His Holiness Imam Husayn [third Shiite imam] was alone in the actual land of Neynava [now in Iraq]; today around 100,000 combatants who are representing his faith have taken part in these maneuvers to declare that they are, with all their might, prepared to sacrifices their lives to safeguard the values of Islam and to confront the enemies and their conspiracies.

The enemies must be aware that the Islamic Republic of Iran puts all its might in the service of defending Islam and the faith of the people, who for their part, are united in their support for the armed forces defending their Islamic homeland.

Ayatollah Yazdi then referred to the United States' efforts to portray Iran as a dangerous country and thereby justify its hostile acts against our Muslim nation. He said: The reason for the United States' concern is that it is no longer able to dominate our nation and government. Moreover, it is now fully aware that the era when Washington used to be the main decision-maker for Iran has ended.

The U.S. Government should know that if this is the real cause for its concern, then it will have to worry for ever.

The acting Friday prayer imam added: The United States should eventually accept that it has no right to interfere in the internal affairs of others, and must therefore respect the rights and the will of other nations. Otherwise, its conspiracies will continue to fail, as before. [passage omitted]

U.S. Said Planning 'Propaganda' at G-7 Summit

NC1606070895 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 12 Jun 95 p 1

[Editorial: "Clinton Thinking of Repeating an Experience"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With the G-7 summit in Halifax, Canada, the United States is again preparing for an extensive political-propaganda attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the summit officials in Washington hope to achieve everything they have so far failed to achieve.

Incoming reports indicate that a list of proposed meetings by every member of the U.S. delegation has been prepared and that during the summit, and on its sidelines, U.S. officials have been tasked with convincing the representatives of the other industrial countries, resorting to every possible means, to convince them to follow in Washington's footsteps.

Sandy [Samuel] Berger, assistant to Clinton in national security affairs, has stated in relation with this that Washington is not only trying to pave the way for the trade embargo on Iran by imposing pressures on its allies, but also wants the other industrial countries to cooperate with it in preferential trade plans such as the allocation of export credits.

The truth is that in the highly competitive market of the seven industrial countries, Washington wants to deprive others of safeguarding their interests in Iran and to prevent their presence in Iran's profitable market. What will happen in the Halifax summit and whether the industrial countries will reject Clinton and his assistants there is a question that will soon be answered. But facts show that this time too Clinton's chances of succeeding are very slim. And it seems improbable that other industrial countries will let the United States dictate their trade priorities and partners and the way they should behave with the other countries.

The United States has failed to adopt a friendly attitude to the Islamic revolution because of its incorrect hostile policies in the past; naturally its insistence on continuing these policies has deprived it of opportunities for good. But it expects others too to sever their relations with Iran to please the United States and to behave with other countries as Washington wants them to behave.

The question that naturally arises for U.S. allies is: If Iran deserves such serious punishment, why are officials in Washington constantly asking to resume relations with Tehran? Clearly, Washington's allies have ignored its persistent appeals. Washington is unhappy that the other industrial countries have seized the opportunity to use the U.S. absence from the profitable market of Iran to stabilize themselves and that they fervently hope the U.S. embargo on Iran will adopt a more serious and comprehensive form so that U.S. companies will be deprived of the Iranian market and will be replaced by European and Japanese companies.

Clearly, Clinton's insistence that the other industrial countries follow the embargo is an issue of prestige for the White House. Washington wants to state that it is the sole leader of the Western world after the Cold War and that the other countries should follow whatever is dictated to them by Washington without question.

But the United States' proposal for an international embargo on Iran has failed and none of the independent countries have reacted positively. The failure of Clinton's plan has proven the confusion and inefficiency of the Democrats in leading U.S. foreign policy, thus lowering their chance of victory in the upcoming presidential election. So the insistence by Clinton and his assistants on raising the issue of the economic sanctions on Iran again at the G-7 summit is also tantamount to a presidential campaign for him and the Democrats. But although they are sure they will fail in this effort, they see no alternative, but to continue their hopeless efforts to convince others to follow the United States.

The main point here is that Washington officials have lied to their allies on Iranian issues such that nobody trusts them anymore, since the Americans have failed to provide any documentation proving Iran supports terrorism, is trying to acquire nuclear arms, and so on. This clearly means that all the United States' hostile propaganda against the revolution and system of the Islamic Republic of Iran stems from sheer spite and out of the defeats suffered by Washington's officials. Today, even Washington's allies are convinced that the United States has constantly engaged in spreading lies against Iran.

In such conditions Clinton should not expect the Halifax session to succeed. But it is only natural that he will do his best to prove that he is not that inefficient.

Radio Views U.S. Intentions at Summit

LD1506201495 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The summit of the Group of Seven is due to open in Halifax in Canada Thursday [15 June] afternoon. America plans to bring up the issue on isolating the Islamic Republic of Iran as the main political issue at the summit. However, France, Germany, Japan, and Russia have already turned down Clinton's request on Iran's economic boycott and stressed that talks alone will pave the way to resolve the problems.

The most important result that can be inferred as at present from the reaction of the industrialized states to the White House policy is the America's new world order has suffered a reverse. The reason is that in relation to the Islamic Republic of Iran the industrialized states are unwilling to accept U.S. dictates and they do not want to proceed to an unknown destination for the sake of meeting Washington's interests. The leaders of Western countries are afraid that increasing pressure on Iran will further complicate regional situation, making it still more ambiguous.

It now appears that instead of isolation of Iran the isolation of the Democratic Party in America is about to happen. The Republicans, taking advantage of the opportunity, are adding to the gravity of such a situation. In view of the fact that the Republican Party has an exceptional control over most of the seats in the U.S. Congress, it is unveiling certain plans to bring further pressure on Iran to persuade the Democrat President of the U.S., who is in a passive position, to embark on a hostile policy against Tehran. It seems that this tactic can neither be favoured by the industrialized states nor can it be in line with their interests. Hence the main loser in the game will be [the] Democrat Party, resulting in its isolation domestically and its subsequent defeat in the U.S. presidential elections.

Now there figures this question as to whether America will act as an introvert or will try to severely deal with the dissident and rival elements. Whatever the outcome, it will not lead to Iran's isolation. The reason is that before the economic sanctions lead to the isolation of Iran the cultural and ideological domain of the Islamic revolution in Iran will already surpass its frontiers and turn itself into a global movement.

Turkish Envoy Stresses Opposition to U.S Embargo

LD1506182895 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — The Turkish Ambassador to Tehran, Ahmad Mithat Balkan says relations between Iran and Turkey are friendly. He also believes that the U.S. trade embargo on Iran would have no fruits for Washington.

Talking to the Persian daily IRAN on the impacts of the U.S. embargo on mutual ties, Balkan said the Tehran-Ankara ties were of great importance for the two countries and for the regional states. He added that the two countries had separate interests from those of the U.S. in the region.

Referring to the old cultural ties between the two countries, the ambassador reiterated that his country always attached special importance to ties with Iran.

To this end, he added, his government opposed the U.S. embargo from the very beginning and announced that it would not join the sanctions.

Iranian and Turkish oil ministers even signed an oil agreement in Ankara after the declaration of the embargo, he further remarked.

Balkan also pointed out that there was no positive attitude regarding the embargo among Turkish officials and underscored that Ankara would on no accounts join Washington in the trade sanctions against Iran.

Head of UN Drug Control Program Views Visit

LD1506175495 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The head of the of the UN Drug Control Program ended his visit to Tehran today. Speaking to reporters, he paid tribute to our country's authorities for their efforts to uproot drug trafficking in Iran. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran has undertaken a serious and continuous struggle to stop drug smuggling. What we saw at our meeting with the officials and during our inspection of laboratories and rehabilitation centers in Iran, proved this point. We are going to visit Pakistan after our visit to Iran. During this visit we will stress the need to confront the narcotics problem in that country, too.

According to our correspondent's report, during this news conference the secretary of our country's anti-narcotics headquarters announced the Islamic Republic of Iran's willingness to sign treaties at regional and international levels to fight drug trafficking. He said: Iran is ready to provide financial assistance to Afghanistan and Pakistan to stop cultivation of the poppy crop on condition that the Western countries and international organizations also offer similar assistance.

He added: Iran is prepared to play a pivotal role in the training of anti-narcotics squads. And our country is also ready to join the 1971 convention and 1972 protocol, in addition to remaining a member of the 1961 and 1988 conventions.

AFP Reports on Support for Fundamentalist Groups

AU1506105995 Paris AFP in English
1037 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Paris, June 15 (AFP) — Iran's Security Council has virtually doubled its financing of Islamic fundamentalist groups to $3 billion, a confidential French newsletter reported in its latest issue received on Thursday [15 June].

The recently decided increase "marks the return to the radical line which had been moderated by President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani since 1989," the TTU (French acronym for Very Very Urgent) newsletter said.

TTU said the majority of the groups were in Arab countries and that $30 million had been earmarked for the Palestinian group Hamas.

Among other beneficiaries were Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), which would receive $3 million and in Lebanon the Hizbollah ($10 million), TTU said.

It added that Iran financed four fundamentalist movements in Egypt, partially via exile groups in the United States, five Islamic organisations in Iraq and the People's Arab and Islamic Congress in Sudan.

Daily Views Benefits of Improved Azerbaijani Ties

NC1506103595 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
13 Jun 95 p 2

[Editorial: "Tehran, Baku's Most Valuable Friend"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The recent visit of Azeri Vice-Speaker of the National Legislative Assembly, Yashar Aliyev, to Tehran and his talks with Iranian officials are harbingers of good things to come. The trip is a good reminder of the possibility of close cooperation between the two countries in all areas, notwithstanding recent spats, and the benefits that may be reaped in terms of increased mutual trade and efforts to achieve peace and security in the region.

The reality of the relations between the two neighbors has been something else. Tehran is opposed to any exploitation of Caspian Sea resources before the approval of a legal regime governing exploitation of those resources. Baku, however, is already planning on the exploitation of the resources, hand in hand with foreign companies, which actually belong to the littoral states. Russia, too, has expressed its opposition to Azerbaijan's initiative of inviting foreign companies to the region without consulting its Caspian neighbors who have equal rights to exploit the resources in accordance with rights recognized under an accepted legal regime which has yet to materialize.

Iran's interests in the Caspian Sea are vital to Tehran. The Islamic Republic of Iran has made it clear that it won't compromise on this issue. Iran has enough ways and means at its disposal to thwart U.S. attempts at domination. It is not advisable for Azerbaijan to allow its foreign policy to come under U.S. influence.

Consolidation of Tehran-Baku ties is in the interest of all regional countries. Hence, both sides should improve relations to the extent that they become an example for other regional countries.

What is worth recalling is that Iran has helped the nascent Azeri republic in more ways than one. In return, it is but natural for Iran to expect more understanding from the Azeris whom it helped on many occasions, namely, in their civil strife, in the flight of their refugees from war-torn areas inside Azerbaijan and in their fight against Armenian ultra-nationalists over the fate of Karabakh.

Iran has given the Azeri government the freedom to sort out its problems and come up with practical ways to mend its relations with its powerful southern neighbor. It cannot be denied that the Islamic Republic has always served as a friendly neighbor to the Azeri republic.

Azeri officials must realize that friendship with Iran means added strength for this newly independent republic. To have a friend like Iran means added national security and stability. The past couple of years in which Iran's initiatives helped the stability and territorial integrity of Azeri republic should serve as a reminder to officials in Baku that Iran is the best friend they could have in the region and that they should spare no effort in keeping this valuable friend content and happy.

Envoy Views Security for Nationals in Azerbaijan

LD1606125995 Tehran IRNA in English
0930 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, June 16, IRNA — Iranian charge d'affaires to Baku in a meeting with Azerbaijan's general prosecutor here on Thursday [15 June] underlined necessity of providing life and property security for the resident Iranians in this Caucasian country.

The Iranian official, Soleymani, in his talks with Azeri General Prosecutor "Eldaar Hassanov" [name as received] also criticized lack of followup of a robbery case in bureau of Imam Khomeyni Relief Committee in this country.

Soleymani also called for investigation into the problem of failure of Azeri parties in payments due to Iranian merchants which is estimated to amount to dlrs. 2 million.

He also put forward the question of disappearance of a local clerk in Iranian Embassy in Baku.

The Iranian charge d'affaires in a separate meeting with Azeri health minister, Ali Insanov, gave him an invitation letter from his Iranian counterpart, Dr. Marandi to take part in a conference on women's health, to be held 2-4 August in Tehran.

Tehran Said Appreciative for German MKO Refusal

NC1606093595 Paris AFP in English
0918 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 15 (AFP)—Iran on Thursday [15 June] expressed satisfaction over a decision by Germany to bar entry to a leader of the main armed Iranian opposition group.

The TEHRAN TIMES, a daily close to the influential conservative clergy, said the Iranian people and officials "appreciate Germany's anti-terrorist" initiative in refusing to admit Maryam Rajavi, secretary general of the People's Mojahedin [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, MKO] and chief commander of the group's armed wing, the National Liberation of Iran.

"The Iranian nation considers the move to be a goodwill gesture and an act of sympathy for the victims of crimes committed" by the Iraq-based Mojahedin, the English-language paper said.

"We hope that other European countries would follow suit in a bid to help eradicate international terrorism."

The Mojahedin launched a bloody campaign to topple the Islamic regime in Iran in 1981 and the group is blamed here for most terrorist acts taking place in the country. The rebels also carry out frequent cross border attacks from their bases in Iraq.

Bonn announced Tuesday that it had refused to grant a visa to Maryam Rajavi, who has been residing in France for the past 18 months as a political refugee, because Germany did not want its soil to be used by an opposition group to topple a foreign government.

Maryam Rajavi, who is the wife of Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi, was due to deliver a speech at a rally in Dortmund which many supporters of the dissident group were expected to attend.

Other Iranian newspapers carried the news on Thursday, but did not add any comments.

"Iranian leaders are overjoyed, but Tehran doesn't want to give the impression that it is interfering in Germany's internal affairs by over-reacting," a European diplomat said in Tehran.

The German decision is a major success for Iran at a time when hundreds of American and European congressmen and parliamentarians are calling on their governments to help the Mojahedin topple the Tehran regime.

Iranian dissident leaders vowed Wednesday to demonstrate in Dortmund against the decision.

The Iranian community in Germany, about 100,000 strong, is the largest in Europe.

Khamene'i Addresses Opening of Military Exercise

LD1506172695 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Hoseyni Khamene'i at the opening ceremony of the Ashura military exercises in Neynava operational area in Ashura Province—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] It is a pleasure to be among you dear young men who are without doubt the best among Muslim youth and elite soldiers of God. I thank God for such blessing. I thank God for youth who are pious, revolutionary, and determined to defend truth and justice. The generation and the great number of the pious and believing youth you represent and who, thank God, exist throughout the country are the very ones who in the words of the honorable Imam Khomeyni are the greatest achievement of the Islamic revolution. This is the truth.

There are two points to make about this great maneuver of over 100,000 men. The first point regards the form of the operation, which indicates that the Islamic Revolution Guards Corp has achieved an ability and strength in Iran that by God's grace can hold such a comprehensive and powerful presence at a single place. This is a source of pride. This has been achieved by faith. This has been achieved by a will strengthened by faith and love. This is the spirit that was present at the battlefield. This is the spirit that was present at Karbala-5 [military operations during the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq]. [passage omitted] The only difference today is that the military organization is stronger and better, the leadership is wiser and more experienced, and the forces are more familiar with military operations. [passage omitted] This puts fear in the heart of the enemy but makes friends happy, satisfied, and confident. It shows that it is no longer possible to take the Islamic Republic of Iran by surprise. [passage omitted]

There is also a point regarding the spiritual, as well as the real, aspect of the affair. People across the world and throughout history have seen many nations and many countries that have worked hard, made sacrifices, and shown great honor in defeating an enemy. However, after achieving victory through great effort their fate and destiny was to return to their homes, villages, and towns and to return to everyday life. They forgot the enemy. They forgot how difficult it was to achieve victory. They fell asleep, and the enemy that was defeated on the battlefield returned after the war to snatch away their dear and great victories. Look at history. Such was the fate of many nations, many careless nations.

During the war there were people who never cared about the danger the enemy posed. They cared only for a comfortable and quiet material life. If their comfort was disturbed they complained to everyone. Such people and such mentality continue to be present even after the 1988 cease-fire. We are human like all others and we are vulnerable to similar weaknesses and fates. [passage omitted] An alert, wise, aware, and analytical nation should not overlook the enemy's presence, threat, plots, ploys, and malevolence. [passage omitted]

We must safeguard the revolution with all our strength, and with the utmost alertness and vigilance. Of course, we have cultural, economic, scientific, and political safeguards; but if there are no military safeguards, if there is no vigilance, and all of this could be destroyed in half a day.

They raise a hue and cry against the Islamic Republic, saying it is militaristic. That is not all they say about us. The enemy has the mouthpiece and the pen. What do you expect from the enemy? Do you expect the enemy to praise Islam, the great Imam Khomeyni, the Islamic nation, the Islamic Republic? Of course they criticize; of course they accuse us of militarism. That should not stop us from being alert.

The world should know that we are not invaders, corrupt, oppressive, or unjust; but we will not yield either. [crowd chants "God is great," "Khamene'i is the leader," "Death to Israel"]

The world should know that military or nuclear threats, or threats of economic sanctions, or threats of joining forces against Iran will have no effect on the Iranian nation because it relies on God. [passage omitted]

That is the nature of the path. Let the United States and the world arrogance, the Zionists, company owners, their base mercenaries and their insignificant lackeys say what they will. They do not understand Iran's issues. They do not analyze them.

This nation is a very dear and faithful nation. This system is a divine system. Our nation is an ancient nation but a young one. Today the young form the main face of the nation. This young, enthusiastic nation has risen to finish the path that has started to become a model for other nations. If you manage to go walk this path — most of which you have already traversed — it will become an experience for other nations. That is what frightens the United States. The United States looks for any way to prevent you from going through that path or looks for a way to throw you down from the path; but it knows this is not possible. It knows this will not happen. It tries so that perhaps you yourselves gradually come to think: What is the use? Perhaps it is better to go back. Then you will do as the others have done: the governments, the administrations, those who the United States likes, and who like the United States. You should live like that.

No! They have not understood. They have misunderstood. By God's grace, with the blessings of God's great vice regent the absent imam, which, God willing will increase daily. [passage omitted]

Paper Provides Government Budget Structure

95LA0179G Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Mar 95 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] The Government's receipts and payments in its six budgets are summarized in the following tables. These tables contain important points about the budget structure and consequently the Government's administrative structure. The points are discussed and studied briefly below.

1. The Government's general budget is faced with a deficit of about 5,360 billion rials [R]. This budget deficit is about 50 percent of the revenues and about 33 percent of the payments. In other words, this deficit could be solved with an increase of 50 percent in revenues or a decrease of 33 percent in expenditures, or some combination of these two. At the same time it is evident that such major changes in the receipts or payments in the Government's general budget cannot be made easily or quickly.

As was said before, one aspect of the budget is that it is a financial reflection of the Government's administrative and organizational structure. The above points show that what the nation's financial and administrative system has done in past years has brought this budget, meaning the Government's budget for the affairs of governing, up against fundamental imbalances.

It must be noted that in terms of budget principles, since the affairs of governing are continuous, ongoing, and permanent, any investment society makes in current expenses will weaken the foundations of the nation's production and create general poverty.

2. In view of the "cash" and "day-to-day" nature of the nation's current budget system, it provides no information of any kind about likely future changes in payments and revenues in the budget for governing. Therefore, using the existing information in this system, one cannot voice an opinion about future changes in this significant deficit. The quantitative predictions—the budget amounts given in the nation's approved Five-Year Economic, Social, and Cultural Development Plan—are not reliable either for answering this question (in this regard it is necessary to note that the proposed general budget in the Budget Bill for the year 1374 [21 March 1995-20 March 1996] was about 25 percent higher than the budget figure provided for the same year in the Five-Year Plan book).

Despite all this, one may state clearly and accurately with regard to this budget's revenues and payments that in principle and in the absence of a real confrontation with the issue, existing deficits will continue to increase. In this regard it must be noted that:

A. The general budget revenues come mainly from taxes. The experience of the last few years has shown that the nation's administrative apparatus does not have reasonable capacity for collecting additional taxes and that any kind of revenue increase from this source will have significant destructive effects on society's economy unless there are basic changes in the collection system.

B. The expenditures in the general budget consist mainly of things such as defense; maintaining order; and security, training, and health care. It is clear that these kinds of expenses will continue to increase if the past situation continues and if there is significant population growth.

3. The planning budget is facing a surplus of about R12.379 trillion. This surplus is about 50 percent of this budget's revenues and about 94 percent of its payments. In other words, the Government's development expenses in the year 1374 were about 94 percent less than the revenues the Government derived from the conversion of national capital. Clearly, what this means is that society is consuming heavily from wealth and capital resources.

It is clear that if the nation's current budget structure continues along with increased deficits in the Government's budget, the surplus in the planning budget will also increase and the imbalance will therefore also intensify. At the same time these two structural imbalances, in their reciprocal relationship, are creating a vicious circle of poverty and continued imbalance in the budget structure.

4. The redistribution budget, as stated earlier, is being diverted on the one hand to payments in support of society's vulnerable classes and on the other hand to the creation of a more balanced income distribution model for the country. The Summary Table for the 1374 Budget's Revenues and Payments shows that this budget also is faced with a very significant deficit, which is also being made up out of the planning budget.

The deficit in this budget is about R3.085 trillion (about 27 percent of this budget's payments and about 37 percent of its revenues).

5. The undertakings budget is also faced with a deficit of about R1.533 trillion, which is about 91 percent of this budget's total payments. There are also some very basic questions regarding this part of the budget. In past years thousands of billions of rials were invested in Government undertakings, but Government undertakings still require help from the general budget. Why? Were the investments in the Government's undertakings done with the goal of income redistribution? If this is so, why were redistribution activities not discussed in the appropriate budget? Did these investments have other goals? What goals? Did the investments not bring an economic return? Why and how? In any case, there are many questions about this budget and its structural

imbalance, which could be considered via detailed study and discussion.

6. The special services budget shown in the Table Summarizing Government Revenues and Payments indicates that the volume of activity in this budget is quite insignificant in the current budget structure. The question that arises here is this: Is the Government really doing nothing at all in this regard, or in the current situation is it the confusion of budget descriptions that has prevented the activities pertaining to this budget from being broken down into the other budgets? If this is the case, this point also indicates another imbalance in the nation's budget system.

Summary of Government's Revenues and Payments in 1995 Budget Bill, Divided by Government's Areas of Activity (billion rials)

				Deficit or Surplus		
Row	**Heading**	**Revenues**	**Payments**	**Amount**	**Percent Relative to Payments**	**Percent Relative to Revenues**
1	General Budget	10,744	16,104	-5,360	33	50
2	Plan Budget	25,585	13,206	+12,379	94	48
3	Redistribution Budget	11,312	-3,085	27	37	
4	Undertakings Budget	152	1,685	-1533	91	1,008
5	Special Services Budget	-	9	-9	100	-
6	Balance & Financial Accounts Budget	468	2,861	-2,393	83	511
-	Total	45,176	-	-	-	

Oil Producers Need To Cut Dependence on Dollar

95LA0241G Tehran RESALAT in Persian 7 May 95 p 11

[Article by Mohammad Reza Sadiqi]

[FBIS Translated Text] Early last month the value of the dollar reached its lowest level since World War II, dropping to 79.75 yen per dollar. Yet crude oil purchased by consumers is paid in dollars. It is natural that with the reduction in the value of the dollar, the purchasing power of oil revenues is drastically reduced. Thus, this requires more than ever the use of a basket of foreign exchange in oil transactions.

On this basis and based on a statement by an official in the Nippon company, the Iran National Oil Company has asked the Japanese Nippon Refinery to pay for the crude oil it buys in Japanese yen. Although this request has not yet been accepted by the officials of the Nippon refinery, and naturally the adoption of such a procedure in isolation will cause problems, it is entirely necessary to change the basis of oil transactions. Existing circumstances and the outlook for the future require that crude oil-producing nations come together to provide a framework for replacing the dollar with a basket of currencies.

A point worthy of reflection in this regard is the various political and economic circumstances of oil-producing countries. Some countries have close economic and political relations with the United States. These relations could eclipse their motivation for doing such an important thing. For this reason it is even more necessary to work and cooperate to achieve such an objective. In any case it is fully established that with the drop in the value of the dollar, the interests of the oil-producing nations will be damaged. The greatest economic damage will be done to those who have revenues in dollars and buy goods or obtain loans in yen, as in the situation facing Iran's economy.

In the table, recent values of the dollar are compared with four reputable European currencies last year.

Currency	Apr 1995	Jan 1994
German Mark	1.382	1.737
English Pound	0.622	0.676
French Franc	4.832	5.905
Norwegian Crown	6.193	7.521

Official Welcomes, Views U.S. Embargo

95LA0247B Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 11 May 95 p 11

[Unattributed article: "U.S. Trade Ban Will Speed Up Self-Sufficiency"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran (IRNA) — Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Morteza Mohammad-Khan along with nine members of Majlis has welcomed the U.S. trade embargo against Iran and said that it will accelerate self-sufficiency plans, the Persian daily *Iran* said Monday [8 May].

Interviewed by the daily, the MP and the minister, said Clinton's trade embargo against Iran will not work.

Mohammad-Khan said under the circumstances Iran's dependence on oil revenues has considerably reduced and the major part of the country's essential needs are being produced domestically.

He said Clinton's trade embargo, in fact betrays the power struggle in the U.S., and this explains the U.S. president's hastiness to divert world public opinion from domestic difficulties.

Mohammad-Khan said only the U.S. companies will lose from the embargo. Other countries are competing with each other in trade.

The objection of other countries to Clinton's anti-Iran embargo showed that the U.S. cannot be the sole ruler in the world.

Car Company To Market New Vehicles

95LA0247A Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 14 May 95 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Iran Khodro To Market New Iranian Vehicles by Year-End"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A new and modern intercity bus, an aerodynamic minibus with the brand name Koroun and a new Paykan model meant to be used as a taxi cab will be mass produced by Iran Khodro by the end of the current Iranian year.

Iran Khodro managing director, Engr. Manouchehr Qaravi, made the announcement to press reporters who visited his factory's production lines yesterday.

The head of the country's pioneer automobile factory revealed further that the new Paykan, with a Peugeot body, will be powered by a 1725cc engine.

The new minibus, he said, will have a totally new design, unique in the automobile world, and will have 7,000 units produced annually. A contract for the export of the first 120 units to an Arab neighboring country has already been finalized, he said.

"The factory is now working on a totally new design for a national automobile that is intended to be mass produced in a period of three years," said Qaravi.

By then, Iran-Khodro will be almost totally run by the robots, he said.

Talking about the future programs of Iran Khodro, Qaravi said that the company expects to double its Paykan production by the end of the current year to reach a target of 60,000 units, and the company has plans to build a new double-deck city bus and airport transit buses that are to be introduced to the market soon, thus bringing hard currency savings for the country.

Iran Khodro exported vehicles worth $5 million last year, but has signed contracts for the export of $20 million worth of cars and buses this year, the managing director said.

Pakistan

Spokesman: U.S. Remarks on Sharif 'Unwarranted'

BK1606023895 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Pakistan has termed the U.S. State Department statement on charging Nawaz Sharif for treason as unwarranted and an interference in Pakistan's internal affairs. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad that the two countries have friendly relations. However, they are based on respect for each other's sovereignty, and any country, irrespective of whatever level of friendship it has with the United States, cannot accept a U.S. official spokesman's statements on such matters. The spokesman said Pakistan has apprised the United States of its view in this matter.

Daily Views CIA 'Institution of Sabotage'

BK1606015195 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Jun 95 p 6

[Editorial: "Beware of CIA's New Assignment"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After futile efforts to pressurise the major economic powers of the world to make room for American agenda and following the policy of imposing economic sanctions on those nations who do not agree with the principles of American New World Order, Washington has decided to assign this role to the CIA. The Clinton Administration has appointed a seasoned technocrat who has a vast experience of serving in the Defence Department particularly in the field of new technology and its uses.

John Deutch, the new man to head the CIA, has been asked to revamp this notorious institution of sabotage to devise new ways and means to counter the growing economic power of the European Union and Japan in order to expand the American economic interests in the world which is no longer divided on the pattern of the Cold War. During the Soviet-American conflict when the CIA used to ensure that American stooges not only remained in power in different Asian and African countries but also would dance to the tunes composed by Uncle Sam. [sentence as published] At that time, the declared motive was to contain Communism but even under that pretext, the United States succeeded in subjecting the economies of most of the Third World countries to the American interests. Through military and economic aid, the United States not only brought the infrastructure of its allies under their close surveillance but in many cases made them dependent on American technology and goods.

The proposed new role of the CIA is not going to be very different from what it has been doing in the past. The only difference can be that instead of investing in the governments, now it could target those compradore classes which have been allured in the name of the free market economy. Instead of staging political coups, now CIA would be making and unmaking economic tycoons. Instead of selling military hardware which used to be dependent on Pentagon's sweet will even for spare parts, now new technologies would be utilised to break into the economies of the developed as well as developing countries. President Clinton has not chosen an economist or someone with experience in that field but a man who knows the skill of defence technology and is familiar with the art of its uses and abuses. This development calls for a serious thinking not only on the part of those who have been declared its targets (European Union and Japan) but also those who are their trading partners and are pursuing the policies of free market economy without realising its connections with the mother economy, ie the United States.

Apparently, this assignment has been given to the CIA in total desperation because the various threats issued by Washington to China, Japan and other countries have miserably failed. Moreover, economic isolation of those countries who challenge the ethics of US foreign policy have neither worked nor elicited any support from the US "allies." Now the American leadership has gone back to the CIA to do in changed circumstances what it had done during the Cold War. Whether CIA would be able to deliver what it has been asked for or not has yet to be seen. But the important thing is that it has further revealed the American mind. They are bent upon ruining the world economy in order to retain their upper hand. Besides the fact that CIA will be doing all the dirty work is enough to create genuine feelings of insecurity amongst the target nations. Political instabilities, manipulation of public opinions, massacres and coups reveal the extent to which CIA has operated in the past. Abominable and inhuman as they were, yet these activities were confined to a relative small groups in those unfortunate countries where these devilish acts were committed. The new role of CIA would target almost everyone in the world because it would mean forced devaluation of currencies, unanticipated economic depressions, manipulation of stock exchanges, vicissitudes in prices, adverse impacts on imports and exports and so many other features that influence the daily lives of the billions around the world. Knowing the past profile of the CIA and the new resources at its disposal, its future role, if not effectively countered, could have extremely disastrous effects on the global economy.

It is high time that world wakes up to the dangers of leaving the world affairs to the mercy of Uncle Sam whose only interest is to place the global matters — political, economic, social and intellectual — firmly under the shadow of the American eagle and if in that process, the rest of the world goes to hell, it would not bother him. To expect any ethics, decency and fair play from Washington is as far-fetched as rescuing a piece of meat from the crooked beak of a vulture.

Offical Views Private Sector in Defense Production

BK0606163595 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Senate was informed during question hour today that the government is fully committed to the participation of the private sector in the production of defense store sector and would allow their participation. The defense minister, Mr. Aftab Shaban Mirani, in reply to a question by Mr. Saifullah Khan Piracha, told that more than a dozen high value and high priority projects in this respect had already been identified for the participation of the private sector.

To a question by Professor Khurshid Ahmad, the minister for water and power, Malik Ghulam Mustafa Khar told the house that the Neelum- Jhelum Hydro Power Project [HPP] and Khola HPP have been planned to generate 500 megawatt and 1000 megawatt of power. Norway has agreed to finance feasibility studies and detailed engineering of the two projects.

The minister in charge for railways told the house in reply to a question by Chaudhary Mohammad Anwar Bhinder that a number of measures have been taken to reduce deficit of railways. He said the gap between earnings and expenditure of railways during the current financial year stands at 1,589 million rupees.

TV Reports Further on Recent Leghari Remarks

BK1306144595 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari has underlined geostrategic importance of Pakistan and said it is uniquely placed to strengthen peace and security in the region and the states around.

The president was addressing the 19th convocation of the National Defense College in Rawalpindi today. He pointed out that Pakistan, being at the crossroads of South Asia, Central Asia, Gulf, and the Middle East, can serve as a bridge between Muslim countries and the rest of the world as a symbol of democracy. He, however, regretted that India, which is the largest country in the region, has problems not only with Pakistan, but with all other countries in the region, and the hegemonistic designs of New Delhi are causing Pakistan and other neighboring states of India to divert their resources to defend instead of spending them on poverty alleviation.

[Begin Leghari recording] Pakistan has tremendous opportunities and challenges, both within Pakistan and in the regions around us, and Pakistan today is poised to play an effective role for peace. We are a part of the subcontinent of South Asia. Pakistan and India between them have a population of almost a billion, which is almost one-sixth of humanity, and together with SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] we are one-fifth of humanity. Most of the population in our countries live below the poverty line, and I think the leaders in all these countries must address themselves to the reasons for this and how we can transfer resources from other areas to alleviate the poverty of our people, to improve the living standards and to give them and the future generations a better deal in the future.

Within SAARC and as a close neighbor of a very large country, India, Pakistan has right since its inception felt the heavy weight of our immediate neighbor. Our relationship with all our other neighbors has been almost exemplary. We are at peace with all our neighbors and we desire peace with everyone, including India. On the other hand, the neighbors of India have always felt the heavy weight and hegemonistic ambitions of their very large neighbor. They have problems with India. We in Pakistan have only one major problem with India, and that is Kashmir. [end recording]

Speaking of the importance of a peaceful solution of the Kashmir dispute in line with the Security Council resolutions, the president said it is not a territorial dispute. It involves the questions of the right of self-determination to a people and resolution of the problem as an unfinished agenda of the partition. Referring to the current spate of gross human rights abuses in occupied Kashmir, the president said the world at last has started recognizing the necessity of a peaceful solution of this vital problem as a prelude to peace, stability, and harmony in the region. The president urged the world community to persuade India for solution of the problem in accordance with UN resolutions.

During his address, the president touched upon a variety of subjects, including the country's defense, foreign policy, Pakistan's role in the SAARC, ECO, and Gulf region. Citing the achievements of Pakistan's foreign policy, the president said it has always supported the just causes around the world.

The president noted with satisfaction that Pakistan's relations with the United States are improving and President Clinton himself has made the observation that Washington had not treated Pakistan fairly.

Turning to the internal situation, the president appreciated the fact that despite polarization, consensus exists among all major parties and groups over vital national issues, including Kashmir, peaceful nuclear program and economy. The president stressed the importance of a democratic system for Pakistan and said the people's movement led by Qaide Azam [Mohammad Ali Jinnah] was the sole cause of the creation of this country. By adhering to democratic principles, we can overcome all crisis and resolve all complicated problems.

The president arrived in the Convocation Hall in a procession. In his address of welcome, the commandant of the National Defense College, Lieutenant General Tanveer Hussain Naqvi, gave a resume of the activities of the college. The president, who is also the chancellor of Qaide Azam University, gave away degrees. The passing out candidates included officers from Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States.

Official Presents 1995-96 Federal Budget

BK1406165795 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The federal budget for 1995-96 provides a total outlay of 431 billion 221.7 million rupees. This is 14.5 percent higher than the estimates of the outgoing financial year. The new budget provides a number of relief measures to the salaried class, pensioners, common man; reduction in tariff; and concessions to the engineering industry.

The budget, announced by the minister of state for finance and economic affairs, Makhdum Shahabuddin, in the National Assembly this afternoon, proposes 7 percent cost of living allowance for all government servants to be drawn from 1 July this year, which would be tax free. The government has raised the income tax exemption limit for nonsalaried people from 30,000 to 40,000, for salaried people from 40,000 to 50,000, and for working women from 45,000 to 55,000 rupees. The minister of state for finance said in order to provide relief to pensioners an increase between 5 to 15 percent is being given depending on the time of their retirement.

Excise duty on sugar is being reduced by 50 rupees per ton with the expectation that the manufacturers will pass the relief on to the consumers. The limited exemption of sales tax on footwear is being enhanced from 300 to 345 rupees per pair to provide relief to the poorer segments of the society. The minister of state for finance said despite 21 percent increase in POL [petroleum, oil, and lubricants] prices in the international market, the government has decided to pass on only 5 percent increase in the prices of POL products to the people to generate additional 5 billion rupees.

A broad based self-assessment scheme of income tax is being introduced. It shall apply to all noncorporate tax payers and will run for three years. The exemption in respect of initial depreciation allowance for industries has been extended for another five years. It has been decided to grant accelerated depreciation facility to new engineering industries at the rate of 25 percent in the first year and another 25 percent in the second year. It has been decided to introduce a holding tax of 2 percent of the value of bearer certificates at the time of encashment. However, foreign exchange bearer certificates will be charged to tax of 1 percent only. This will, however, be applicable to new issues. To bring about a gradual reduction in corporate tax rate, the government will reduce the rates to 60 percent for banking companies, 36 percent for public companies, and 46 percent for others. The minister of state for finance said the rate of wealth tax on agriculture is being increased from the present 200-250 rupees per produce index unit.

Turning to customs duty, he said the maximum rate of duty in the tariff is being brought down by only 5 percent; that is, from 70 to 65 percent. In order to help the textile industry, the duty on PTA [phenylthiocarbomide] is being reduced from 25 to 15 percent, on polyester chips from 30 to 20 percent, on polyester staple fiber from 25 to 15 percent. To help the engineering industry, it has been decided to reduce the tariff structure on machine tools, hand tools, cutting tools, testing equipment, molds, and dyes from the existing range of 25-45 percent to 10-25 percent. Duties on a large number of inputs for electronic industry have also been reduced from 25 to 10 percent to boost manufacturing and employment. For automotive vehicle industry, the concessional rate of 22 percent on CKD [completely knocked down] kits of passenger cars has been extended for another year and this will also be available for CKD kits for diesel passenger cars. Duty on CKD kits for two wheelers, three wheelers, and commercial vehicles is being reduced to 20 percent.

In order to lower taxes on investment goods, it has been decided to reduce tariff structure on machinery from the existing range of 15-70 percent to the range of 10-45 percent. It has been proposed to reduce excise duty on lower brand of cigarettes and also on detergents and cosmetics, making them cheaper. A corresponding duty of 10 percent is being imposed on import of soaps, detergents, and cosmetics to protect the local industry.

The excise duty bank on checks has been raised from one rupee to two rupees per check. Services of lawyers, doctors, ship chandlers, stevedores, architects and town planners and chartered accountants are being brought into the net of central excise duty by imposing 10 percent tax, while five percent duty is being levied on advertising and travel agents. The rate of excise duty on resort hotels is being increased from five to six percent, while in the case of others it has been enhanced from 10 to 12.5 percent.

The resource availability during the next year has been estimated at 361.7 billion rupees. The public sector development program has been placed at 96.5 billion rupees, showing an increase of 17.8 percent. The provinces will receive about 112.5 billion rupees from the divisible pool of federal taxes, an increase of over 13 percent. Punjab will get 60.6 billion, Sindh over 28 billion, NWFP (North-West Frontier Province] over 13.8 billion and Balochistan 9.99 billion rupees.

The defense expenditure during the year is budget at 115.25 billion rupees, an increase of 15 percent over the outgoing financial year.

Debt servicing is estimated at 157.3 billion rupees, indicating increase of 18.2 percent.

The annual plan 1995-96 provides for a GDP growth rate of 6.7 percent, compared to the outgoing year's estimated growth of 4.7 percent.

While the highest priorities in the public sector would continued to be enjoyed by power, transport and communications and social sectors, the major share of investment in private sector will be claimed manufacturing, housing and agriculture sectors. In the public sector development program of 96.5 billion rupees, 17.6 percent has been provided to power sector, 16.4 percent to transport, communication and National Highway Authority programs and 14.3 percent to water sector. Exports are forecast to increase by 16.5 percent to $9.035 billion. Imports are projected to increase by 9.2 percent to $11.037 billion. The overall balance of payments is expected to record a surplus of $462 million. Health sector will get 2.26 billion rupees, an increase of 54.9 percent. Population sector 1.43 billion rupees, an increase of 43 percent. Education sector 1.6 billion rupees with special emphasis on technical and vocational education. Environment over 360 million rupees, an increase of over 162 percent. Social welfare program 141 million rupees, an increase of 82.6 percent. During the year, an allocation of 10.5 billion rupees has been provided in the federal government development budget for Social Action Program projects. Under the social program, 7,195 primary schools for boys and girls will be opened. About 250 basic health units and 100 rural health centers will be upgraded and 4.4 million children immunized.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto says the new federal budget symbolizes the government's resolve to lead the nation step-by-step toward a bright future and improve the lot of the common man. She was talking to newsmen at her parliamentary chamber this evening immediately after presentation of the budget. The prime minister pointed out that as against the policy of the former regime to freeze wages, her government had given pay rise to salaried people twice at the rate of 35 percent and 7 percent respectively.

Referring to taxation proposals, the prime minister stated that the government of Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif imposed a taxation of 18 billion rupees in one year and taxation levied by Mr. Moin Qureshi stood at 25 billion rupees in a single year. She said as against this, we did not make any substantial increase last year and this year our taxation proposals would yield a revenue of 16.5 billion rupees. She cited the economic achievements of her government. She expressed the confidence that the budgetary measures announced today will help check the price spiral.

Nationalization of Religious Schools Supported

95AS0395B Lahore MUSAWAT in Urdu
28 April 95 p 4

[Editorial: "Financial Aid For Religious Schools and the Decision to Nationalize Them."]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Governor of Punjab, Chowdhury Altaf Hussain, in an attempt to dispel wrong impressions regarding how the law addressing insult to the prophet Mohammed was amended, said the punishment for false accusation was reduced from life to ten years imprisonment. He then said that the reaction of religious parties was against the law. Referring to foreign financial aid to religious schools, the governor said that the government had proof of this and that the government would nationalize religious schools and pay their expenses.

There is no doubt that there are at present innumerable religious schools which operate with foreign aid; they obtain money from the Gulf States and Saudi Arabia in the shape of zakat and sadaqa [religious charities enjoined in Islam in which a fortieth part of earnings is given to the poor]. These schools make video films in which they exaggerate the religious training given to children and the amount of money required; they show these films to philanthropic individuals in the Gulf States and Saudi Arabia and obtain money from them. This behaviour is neither moral nor does it convey a good impression of Pakistan and the money obtained is misappropriated.

Not only religious schools but certain NGOs, which claim to work for the welfare of various social classes, also follow this practice. These organizations include human rights and womens' organizations. They follow the same procedure; namely, they make video films which they send to those organizations in Europe, U.S.A. and Canada requesting financial aid for the cause they claim to be espousing. The Pakistani organization workers or their patrons obtain billions of rupees in this way and use the money to live in luxury. A human rights organization has established a center in Model Town for Womens welfare; it makes video films which portray false situations; show business personalities are prominently shown to convey the impression to foreigners that these philanthropic individuals are giving financial aid to the organization. In fact, the people shown in the video are actors and there are no show business philanthropists.

Recently, the government talked about its intention to place strict restrictions on organizations [obtaining] foreign financial aid and stop their activity. But nothing has been done so far. The governor of Punjab was correct in saying that religious schools were being run with foreign financial aid. It is obvious that the sympathies of organizations which depend on foreign financial aid are not with Pakistan but with foreigners. The decision to nationalize religious schools is a commendable one and should be immediately put into effect.

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